

MEDIA SCAN: PREMIER-U.S. ENGAGEMENT

August 29, 2017

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PREMIER SPEECHES AND AVAILS

PREMIER KATHLEEN WYNNE'S INTERVIEW ON CNN (2017.08.25)

Date: August 25, 2017
Length: 3:52 minutes
Speaker(s): Premier Kathleen Wynne;
CNN

CNN: Now we know the U.S., Mexico and Canada are locked in highly contentious talks to rework the North American Free Trade Agreement. Apparently, we won't learn much more about that though. The three countries signed a nondisclosure agreement – I really hope that doesn't last too long – to prevent details from leaking out. Some state and provincial governors, though, are taking matters into their own hands. Yesterday, we heard from Governor of Oregon Kate Brown. Earlier today, I spoke with the Premier of Ontario, Canada, Kathleen Wynne told me it's of course an uncertain time.

PREMIER KATHLEEN WYNNE: I know that as we go through this process there will be heated moments. There will be drama, we know that. But the work is being done at the negotiating table. The work is being done by people who are hearing from leaders in states and in provinces about how important this deal is for all of us. There are nine million jobs, Paula, in the United States that are dependent on Canadian companies. I can tell you that the governors that I have spoken to are giving that message to the negotiators in Washington so whatever rhetoric, whatever drama we hear in the public, the discussion is going on at the negotiating table and we have to very serious about this extremely important document.

CNN: Does that mean that there is some opportunity to compromise with the Trump administration on some irritants, namely things like the milk marketing boards and even things like the content regulations in those autos going back and forth across the border?

PREMIER WYNNE: I do think there are opportunities to make this a better deal. I mean, you heard many people talk about the reality that there are areas that weren't even thought of, when NAFTA was first negotiated, around technology and cybersecurity, those kinds of things. So we have huge opportunities there. But even in the areas that are more traditional, yes, I think that there are opportunities to make this a better deal. Regardless, Paula, of what the public media discussion is there are serious negotiators dealing with very serious issues on whom jobs depend, on whom peoples' lives depend on both sides of the border.

CNN: But if you had to be frank with Ontarians right now, what would you tell them about this severe minefield, I would say right now, a very dangerous minefield that are these negotiations?

PREMIER WYNNE: Yeah, I have said to Ontarians I have said two things: this is an uncertain time. There is no doubt about it and some of the language that has come out of the White House, for sure, makes it even more uncertain exactly what the future holds, exactly what the end of this negotiation will be. That is a given, but my personal experience in talking to governors who have responsibility for advancing their constituents' interests, of advancing their economies, my experience has been that they understand whether they are Republican or whether they are Democrats, they understand how important it is that we have a good working relationship because they know that there are jobs in their states that are dependent, in this

case, on Ontario but on Canada. So when I talk to the people of Ontario, I am saying, look, I know what you are hearing in the press. I understand that you are hearing particular speeches or you are hearing rhetoric, but what I am experiencing is very serious leadership at the state level that understands that we've got to get this right. It's not something that we can be frivolous about; it's not something that we can be flippant or offhand about. This is about very serious consequences for their constituents' lives and that's what I have said frankly to the people of Ontario.

*PREMIER WYNNE'S INTERVIEW WITH THE TORONTO STAR ON RHODE ISLAND
(2017.07.14)*

Date: July 14, 2017
Length: 4:16 minutes
Speaker(s): Premier Kathleen Wynne

PREMIER KATHLEEN WYNNE: We have to work together. There's no question about it. There's no having to convince anyone or have a discussion. It's just how to do we do this and how can we be best prepared for the negotiation. So it's pretty gratifying. It's good to be here.

Q: (Inaudible).

PREMIER WYNNE: Yeah, I mean the mandate is going to come out at the beginning of the week and so we'll have a better idea. I mean, certainly, the Mexican delegates are concerned. They want to make sure that there's not a real undermining of their position, but there is there's such a willingness to work on a tripartite agreement. There's such an understanding of the supply chain among governors that I've spoken to, and that's among Republican and Democrat. And I think that that's what's making me feel optimistic. We'll see.

Q: (Inaudible).

PREMIER WYNNE: No. Really, none, I mean we're talking about people who understand that they've got thousands of jobs that rely on this connectivity across the continent. No, this is not a protectionist crew at all.

Q: (Inaudible).

PREMIER WYNNE: We are. Yes, I am. I'm heading back to Ontario tonight and I'm leaving, I think, first thing Monday morning for Edmonton.

Q: (Inaudible).

PREMIER WYNNE: Well this one. The Canada-US relationship is going to be a big topic of discussion. I'm going to debrief this meeting with my colleagues and talk to them about what I've heard. I've spoken to over 20 governors now and I've got a pretty good sense of where we're going. And so, I'll be talking to folks about that and they have all had their own discussions too. Brian Gallant was down in Washington last week, I think, and Premier Couillard has been meeting with American counterparts on softwood lumber, so there's going to be a big discussion. The softwood lumber deal has not been finalized yet, as you know. So there's going to be some consternation about that so we'll be sharing our collective perspectives on NAFTA, on softwood lumber and that will take up a big chunk of our time. We will talk about infrastructure, Kris. You know, Ontario is in the fourth year of our big investment; the \$190 billion over 13 years, so we'll be talking about how that is going, and then also I'm going to want to know how it's going with the other provinces and in the second (inaudible) second phase of the federal infrastructure investment. So I think there will be discussion about that. And then, for me, the third priority is Pharmacare. Given our own OHIP plus initiative, I want to explain that to folks, tell them what we're doing. Describe it to them. And I hope we can advance the

conversation on a national Pharmacare plan. I think that there's a lot of interest among the ministers. There has been a pretty full discussion about Pharmacare with the Ministers of Health across the country and so I'm interested to hear where my colleagues are at that.

Q: (Inaudible).

PREMIER WYNNE: You're very welcome. Thanks a lot, Kris. Sorry we were late. Okay, bye.

PREMIER WYNNE'S PANEL REMARKS AT THE NATIONAL GOVERNORS' ASSOCIATION MEETING (2017.07.14)

Date: July 14, 2017
Length: 9:32 minutes
Speaker(s): Premier Kathleen Wynne

PREMIER KATHLEEN WYNNE: It's a great pleasure to be here and I know what you want from me is a really long speech, but I'm going to disappoint you. I want to – I just want to make a few points. I want to begin by thanking Governor McAuliffe, Governor Sandoval, Governor Raimondo and Scott for this event. Sessions have been terrific. It was very helpful in my role as the Premier of Ontario to hear people's shared experience on the opioid crisis. We're dealing with many of the same situations. I had a great opportunity to listen to folks talk about cybersecurity. So again, it's very, very helpful to be able to hear best practices and so I thank you for the warm welcome.

We just heard from Prime Minister Trudeau, so the first thing that I want to do is just say that I'm here on behalf of Ontario. So we're, as Scott has said, the largest province in the country; about over thirteen and a half million people. And I'll be debriefing with my colleague premiers next week actually. We are having our meeting that is parallel to this one and so I'll be talking to them about the conversations that I've had here. I've had the opportunity to meet with many of you and I appreciate that so much. All the heads of Canada's provinces and territories, without exception, I can tell you recognize the importance, as the Prime Minister has articulated today, the importance of our relationships with the states and with the United States as a whole. So there is not one of us that would not articulate that. So trade will be a topic (inaudible) meet next week and I will certainly be talking to my colleagues about the conversations that I've had here.

We are, as I said, the largest province in the country and that's by GDP and population. The United States is our biggest trading partner. I just want to give you an example that builds on something that the Prime Minister talked about in terms of the auto sector, and used the auto sector as an example. I know that many of you have heard the stat that vehicles cross our borders seven times before they are completed. So the relationship with the United States and Mexico for Ontario is absolutely critical. We see ourselves in that supply chain. Not just in the auto sector, but in so many of our sectors. And to exemplify that, I signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Governor Snyder in Michigan some time ago. So it is about expanding those trade opportunities, but more than that, it's about sharing the capacity, the innovation, sharing information, having partnerships that allow us to grow that tie. A number of meetings that I've had today, we've used the expression, "this is not a zero sum game." And I think that is fundamental to these conversations. If we see this relationship in North America as a zero sum game then it will be competitive, it will be that race to the bottom that the Prime Minister was talking about. It will degenerate into a trade war. That's not what anyone of us wants. So the fundamental assumption that together we can (inaudible) that there is a possibility for growth for this North American region, I think is critical. That's why I have been so intent and I have been part of that strategy of relentlessness that the Prime Minister talked about. I've met so many of you and I apologize for chasing you down. Sorry, but I'm going to keep doing it because it's so important to us. I think it's important to all of us.

The second thing I wanted to say is just I have been very, very focused on the importance of the sub-national relationships. So to go back to one of the questions that Governor McAuliffe asked the Prime Minister, I'm going to build on the answer the Prime Minister gave and say that, I think one of the things that we can do is that we can have those strong subnational relationship; state, province, municipalities working together. I think that because we all understand as premiers and governors – and when I'm explaining to young people in the states what a premier is, I say a governor with no mansion.

I think that we can understand directly from our stakeholders what the limitations of decisions are and we how we are going to influence decisions that are made. I think that's extremely important that we recognize those sub-national relationships. I noticed in our conversations that we are grappling with the same things – I talked about the opioid crisis, but I had a number of conversations where the trade discussion has gone into an education discussion because we are talking about training our workforce.

Governor Reynolds and I were talking earlier about the relationship between the labour market and our education institutions and tighten those connections. Governor Reynolds, I did drop by the girls – the coding session – you know, Women in STEM, that's all something we're dealing with; how do we make sure that there are more women in those seats and taking part in that part of the economy. We're investing heavily in Ontario in our people, and their skills, and their training opportunities. We're providing free tuition as of this September for college and university for young people in the lowest social-economic brackets and also for people who are retraining, people who are not able to pay for their tuition. We believe that our people are absolutely our most important asset. I know that's a shared value. Those are the kinds of things I know we're all grappling with. It only makes sense that we would find ways to share best practices on those things.

The third point I want to make is that it strike me that on the issue of insuring distribution of the benefit of the growth that we have seen. In Ontario, we had a great first quarter; our GDP grew by 1 per cent. We are leading growth in the country; we are outstripping growth in terms of G7, so we are doing well in Ontario. But not everyone is benefiting from that. We are making decisions about spreading of the benefit across the population that have to do with a fair economy, that have do with an exclusive economy. So we're investing in infrastructure, we're creating jobs. We are doing that in the form of (inaudible).

And I talked to a number of you about how we are working with the private sector to do that, but there is strong job recreation because of that investment. We are in the fourth year of a \$190 billion investment in infrastructure over 13 years. That's a significant rate of jobs as a result of that investment. We are raising the minimum wage in Ontario. We are raising it by January 2019 to \$15. And we have recognized that, although we've seen our minimum wage increase over the last 10 years, we're still faced with a situation where people are not able to look after themselves and their families and are pasting together two or three jobs in order to do that. We don't take the growth for granted; we don't take the benefits of that growth for granted. And we believe that an inclusive economy is one that will continue to benefit all of us.

I'll just close by saying that I've been speaking with you across the United States – I'm going to continue to do that. I believe in my heart and in my mind that these relationships are critical; I believe as we go into the NAFTA discussions it is going to be absolutely essential for us as sub-national leaders to be able to (inaudible) the information about what's going on the ground, in our jurisdictions, to our federal negotiators in a way that is going to allow them to represent our interest best at the table. There are going to continue to be challenging discussions – I

absolutely understand that. But I also am very encouraged because of the conversations I've had with so many of you and your colleagues. We all understand the importance of this relationship and I'm convinced that we are all, in each corner of this great continent, going to continue to work to make sure these partnerships benefit all of the people we represent. I want to thank you so much, all of you, for time that you have given us and I look forward to continuing our work together. Merci, gracias, thank you.

Date: July 14, 2017
Length: 11:23 minutes
Speaker(s): Premier Kathleen Wynne;
Governor Terry McAuliffe, Virginia;
Mayor Miguel Ángel Mancera, Mexico City, Mexico

GOVERNOR TERRY MCAULIFFE, VIRGINIA: It's an honor to have you here today. We're joined by Premier, the Mayor, and the Governor who just had a very good productive session. I think as you heard Prime Minister Trudeau talk about in order to grow your economy you got (inaudible) trade treaty, jobs and that's what this whole session is about and I appreciate all of you being here. On behalf of all the governors in the United States of America we want to increase trade (inaudible) the opportunity of North America to come together and continue to take it to the next level is how we're going to continue to grow this country and be able to continue to grow in Canada and Mexico to create jobs all up and down the North American border. So I want to thank the Mayor, the Premier and the Governor for being here with us today. Appreciate it, and (inaudible) Madam Premier – Premier Wynne, do you want to give just a minute or two of remarks? I'd appreciate it.

PREMIER KATHLEEN WYNNE: Thank you, Governor and thank you for the warm welcome. It's been a great opportunity to have conversations here today and I am very grateful. I believe that this is an important moment in our shared history. I think that it's extremely important that we recognize the mutual benefit of our partnership that has been in place for so many years. It's an opportunity, also, to update that partnership as we go to the discussions around NAFTA, but from Ontario's perspective, we're the largest province in Canada, and 28 states are – we are the number one export market for 28. Number one or number two. About 20 we are the number one export market of the states. Another eight states, we are the number two export market. And so, our relationship with the United States and with Mexico – we are on an important supply chain with Mexico, and we want to continue to work together. I think that all of the conversations that I have had with governors and with folks from Mexico have reinforced the reality that we are stronger together than we are separate; that we have synergies in our economies that we need to continue to build on. And so this opportunity at the NGA, I want to thank the NGA for giving us this opportunity to come together to share our perspectives and to be able to enter this next round and this next period where we are going to be part of the renegotiation of NAFTA and my expectation is that we will come out stronger on the other side of it. I'll just end by saying that I think that this meeting, again, emphasizes how important it is that sub-nationals – so provinces, states, municipalities – work together to impress upon negotiators, impress upon our federal governments the important role that we play as we have these conversations, so thank you very much and I look forward to your questions.

MAYOR MIGUEL ÁNGEL MANCERA, MEXICO CITY, MEXICO: Thank you very much. Once again, thank you Governor McAuliffe. Thank you for your (inaudible) thank you for this opportunity. This is great, not just for Mexico, for the governors of Mexico can be here. For us it's so important to talk with the governors of the United States because we have the same goals. We have to work for our people. We have to talk with the Premiers from Canada. We have to work together; three countries. (Inaudible) very significant the message (inaudible) the President of the United States especially when he said three words. I have that message for my

colleagues in Mexico. Three words was "we will win." "We" I suppose is United States, Mexico, and Canada, no? "We will win," this is a message for the next (inaudible) of NAFTA. We are very united in Mexico and we want to work together with the governors of the United States and the premiers of Canada. Again, we are very much glad to be here. And I am really, really excited for the next step for keeping contact with the governors of United States (inaudible) of Canada. Thank you very much (inaudible) the governance of Mexico. Thank you.

GOVERNOR MCAULIFFE: Questions. We're going to open up to the press if anybody has any questions for us, feel free to ask away.

Q: Premier Wynne? (Inaudible).

PREMIER WYNNE: Sorry, I can't –

Q: Oh, you can't hear me? You gave a very illustrious example of how important these interdependent relationships are by explaining how car parts go across all these borders seven times before they reach completion. Given (inaudible) and describe what addition tariffs or additional barriers would do to that process.

PREMIER WYNNE: Well, you know, when I talked about the supply chain and I talked specifically about the auto sector, I think a really good illustration of the interconnections between us is the reality that before an audit is completed it goes across the border seven times. And so that really demonstrates that the building of an automobile may start in Michigan, it may then go to Ontario and it may then go to Mexico and that's exactly what supply chain means and that integrated supply chain has worked for all three nations. Certainly, it has worked for Ontario and we want to strengthen that. And the example that I gave in my remarks earlier was that we've in fact signed a memorandum of understanding with Michigan, with the Governor of Michigan, because we know that beyond just those – those manufacturing realities we can innovate together, we can do research together, we can find ways to take the auto sector into the next phase, whether it's investing in artificial intelligence, doing research together. And we can do that better if we're working together than if we're working apart.

Q: [Speaking in Spanish 7:16-7:35]

MAYOR MANCERA: [Speaking in Spanish 7:39- 7:59]

[Speaking in English] We have a couple issues with Mexican migrants and that issue, that subject is the same when we talk with the governors of the United States or when we talk with the premiers of Canada because we have a compromise with people. We don't want the people to live (inaudible) people live with (inaudible). Now we have strong agreements to benefit our people in our countries.

[Speaking in Spanish 8:39- 8:49]

[Speaking in English] I heard the governments of the United States required workers, required a temporary program for work in the United States. This is real. This is a fact. The other question, the other position was rhetoric. But the rhetoric can be (inaudible) go ahead with the fact. And we need workers and we need to work together for the mutual benefits.

Q: Thank you so much. This is (inaudible) from the Mexican news agency (inaudible). Would you expect that the workers' rights would be included during the NAFTA talks? And how much

leverage – this is a question for the governor of the US and the representative of Canada. How much leverage do you have during the NAFTA talks as state representatives, if any? Would you clarify that? Thank you so much.

GOVERNOR MCAULIFFE: First of all – And I recently went to Mexico, met with all the governors; I met with the president, met with the cabinet. We talked about NAFTA. I think we're all in agreement that NAFTA obviously needs to be restructured. The Internet didn't even exist when we originally did NAFTA. So we need to bring it up to speed. We need to bring it (inaudible). But as I've always said, we have to have trade between our countries, obviously with Canada, Mexico and the United States. I'll remind you that I believe Mexico did \$35 billion dollars last year of foreign direct investment in the United States of America. Every item from Mexico that comes to America, 40 per cent of that item was made in the United States of America. So I am all for more trade. I've always said Virginia, we build bridges; we don't build walls. We build bridges for economic opportunity. And that's the attitude of the governors.

MAYOR MANCERA: Speaking in Spanish [10:59-11:14]

PREMIER WYNNE INTERVIEW WITH THE CANADIAN PRESS (2017.07.14)

Date: July 14, 2017
Length: 10:26 minutes
Speaker(s): Premier Kathleen Wynne; Alexander Panetta, Canadian Press

PREMIER KATHLEEN WYNNE: So you're captive somewhere, well we can do it this way.

CANADIAN PRESS: [Inaudible]

PREMIER WYNNE: No problem.

CANADIAN PRESS: [Inaudible]

PREMIER WYNNE: Well I think the big question right now is the, you know, the timing of the negotiation. We're going to get the mandate. We'll see the mandate the beginning of the week. But yes, the conversations that I've had with the governors have been very much ones that, you know, we're on the same page. We understand how important the relationship is. The the next step though is how do we make sure that those messages are getting to the decision makers you know. And in the case of Ontario and Canada the provinces will be working very closely with the federal government. And our, you know our input will be very regular and constant throughout the negotiation. And you know that's some of the conversation I've been having with the governors is are they confident that they're going to be able to have the same kind of working relationship input to the White House and to the negotiators. And I, you know, I'm feeling more confident about that. I certainly-- one of the conversations I had today was about the importance of all of us leaders of the subnationals - so the provinces and the states - talking with our business leaders which we are doing in Ontario. That those business leaders then connecting with their counterparts in the United States and in Washington that that's an important avenue for information. So I think that's something that we will follow up on even more closely. So it's very worthwhile for us to continue to have these discussions. And you know it doesn't end with the National Governors Association. I mean this is something that is top of our priority list for the weeks and months to come.

CANADIAN PRESS: [Inaudible]

PREMIER WYNNE: Well I guess I have to step back on that and just say that I suspect that that-- that a, either that won't happen or certainly the governor's-- and I've spoken to now to 21 or 22 governors and the ones I've spoken to, they are going to be working hard to make sure that doesn't happen because they know that's not in their best interests. If it were to happen I think there would be many and immediate calls to the decision makers in Washington to say this is a dangerous path and we can't go down that path. That you know this is not a zero sum game, that NAFTA can be updated. It's an opportunity. We can make changes without pulling the rug out from under the thousands and thousands of people who have jobs that are dependent on our inter-connectivity. So I think that's what would happen in the unlikely event that there would be that kind of ultimatum.

CANADIAN PRESS: [Inaudible]

PREMIER WYNNE: Well you know when we talk about the opportunities Alex I think that there are some opportunities in terms of, you know those issues that you raised, environmental issues. You know there may be some opportunities to make some progress on harmonization of some of those, on some of those issues. So I would say to people who are concerned about those issues, let's see it as an opportunity because there isn't anyone in Ontario who doesn't want to see more job growth and more economic growth that will benefit people by providing good jobs for them. You know and so we demonstrably can see the impact of NAFTA on whether it's the auto sector whether it's agriculture, you know we have a strong supply chain of which we are a very important part and NAFTAs been-- NAFTAs helped to facilitate that. But are there changes that we can make? Are there things that we can do that can that can strengthen the agreement? Absolutely, that's why that's why we're seeing it as an opportunity.

CANADIAN PRESS: [Inaudible]

PREMIER WYNNE: Yeah, dairy and auto, agriculture and auto are, you know there are huge concerns in those two sectors that we not disrupt things that are already working and that we not get caught into-- that we not get caught into a destructive debate when there are other things that we could do that would, you know, would advance the relationship without causing displacement of people. You know what I don't have that level of detail on steel. I'll have to refer you to the Feds on that at this moment. But I will say to you that I have, as you know, as the Premier of a traditionally steel-producing province, I really feel that having a North American steel industry is important; that's where our interest lies and so that has been and continues to be my position. So I don't have a sense of that yet but I will say to you that the North American supply chain on auto is very integrated and it's very important. When we sit down with our auto manufacturers they make it very clear that having the three jurisdictions working together is in the best interest of growing the auto industry. And so -- and they are very organized, Alex. They are, you know, they are working together; they are finding ways of talking to legislators and their counterparts in the United States and in Mexico. So I think that that tripartite discussion on an auto supply chain is one that's going to be central. Again, I can't tell you exactly where the administration is going to go on this. We may have a better idea when we see the mandate at the beginning of the week.

CANADIAN PRESS: [Inaudible]

PREMIER WYNNE: I'm sorry on what, sorry? Okay the [Inaudible]--

CANADIAN PRESS: [Inaudible]

PREMIER WYNNE: Well I can tell you that the supply management issue is -- that is the issue that our dairy industry puts forward as their top priority. So are there other things that we can do around supply management, can we have other discussions? Again I have to leave that for the negotiations but you know, we are with Quebec standing very, very strong on the supply management model. And I think that you know, that's the kind of issue that if we can find a way to work around that I think it's going to be in everybody's best interest.

CANADIAN PRESS: [Inaudible]

PREMIER WYNNE: Okay. I'm going back later tonight where I've got a bunch of receptions and things and we're going to the Fire -- Fire on the Water event tonight. I'm looking forward to seeing that. Yeah apparently it's beautiful.

CANADIAN PRESS: [Inaudible]

PREMIER WYNNE: I will.

CANADIAN PRESS: [Inaudible]

PREMIER WYNNE: I will do that. Thanks very much Alex. Okay. Bye bye.

Date: July 13, 2017
Length: 11:23 minutes
Speaker(s): Premier Kathleen Wynne

Q: So I'm supposed to be really focused on trade. So I just wanted to ask you a little bit – you know with NAFTA coming up I guess what were your intentions in coming to NJ? Why do you think it was important to come here and interact with the governors here?

PREMIER KATHLEEN WYNNE: So I've been reaching out to governors for a number of months because I – at the beginning I wanted to make sure that particularly the 28 states for whom Ontario is their number one or number two export market that they knew that and that they knew we wanted to build on that, that that trade relationship was important to us, it's important to jobs in Ontario and it's important to jobs in the States. And so that connectivity was the story that I wanted to make sure they were aware of. So what I have found is that they're very aware you know? They really know that Ontario companies and American companies, whether it's in Nevada or whether it's in Iowa, that there is that connection. So it's been less about selling that story and more about okay, what can we do to build on the relationship? What more can we do to expand our trade relationship? And given that NAFTA, you know, is going to be renegotiated, this meeting is extremely important. We're going to see the mandate on NAFTA renegotiations next week, and so there's a real urgency to making sure that those lines of communication are open.

Q: Yeah certainly. What to you is the importance of reaching out on the state level rather than on the executive level and just reaching out to the White House?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well. I mean we have a federal government that will be – that is working in relationship with the federal government here and that's an extremely important relationship. You know I'm really glad the Prime Minister's coming. I think that that's a great message, that this is critical for the federal government as well. But you know the information that the federal government and the federal negotiators are going to take to the table, both in the States and in Canada, a lot of that information is going to get fed in by the states and the provinces. Ontario is the largest province in the country. You know our manufacturing, our agri-food, our tech industry, those are important drivers not just to the economy in Ontario but to the country. And so it's really important that we have good intel from our stakeholders at the provincial level, that we've had these conversations with leadership in the States so that those messages are getting through to both of the federal negotiators in a timely way.

Q: Have you felt that both in the U.S. and in Canada that that message has been getting across so far?

PREMIER WYNNE: You know I can't judge in the States. I don't know. I think there's a lot of uncertainty about exactly what that's going to look like in the States. I'm confident in Canada that we are going to be heard, that we are being heard, and that we're going to be operating from the same page. It's an ongoing process you know? We don't just have a conversation once with the federal officials we. We're talking to them frequently and we'll continue right through the negotiations.

Q: Right. And particularly you know ahead of these negotiations and banding together with United States and with Mexico too, how much of it is about protecting Canada's interests and what currently exists and trying to keep NAFTA mostly intact and how much of it is more offensive and trying to you know promote state-level, provincial-level goals?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well I think it's both you know? And I think that there are opportunities in the renegotiation of NAFTA and so we're going to be looking for those opportunities and in fact the work that we're doing right now at the provincial level is figuring out exactly what are the opportunities that can help grow our economy. And this is a 25-year-old trade agreement, there are whole sectors that weren't even included because it was negotiated 25 years ago. So there are opportunities. And then what are the – you know what are the defensive positions that we have to take where we need to say, 'Look, you know what? This is working, let's not mess with it. Let's just leave it the way it is.' And so there will be some sectors where we'll be seeing that for sure.

Q: Yeah certainly. And the idea being then that you know as a group, as a whole, we sort of have a stronger defence than if they were just provinces on their own.

PREMIER WYNNE: Absolutely. Yeah. And I think from what I have heard now obviously each state and each province has slightly different configurations of sectors in their economies, and so there will be points of tension between particular states and particular provinces, and quite frankly between particular provinces and provinces and states and states. So that's to be expected. But overall there is very much – from what I'm hearing – very much a sense that NAFTA is a pretty good agreement. It has operated pretty well for the North American context and we don't want to upset those supply chains, we don't want to upset those synergies that that already exists. And so I think being very strategic as we move into the changes is going to be important for all of us.

Q: And sort of in the same vein, you know, we were just talking about how you've now spoken to 28 governors, is that right?

PREMIER WYNNE: I've reached out to 28 governors and I've spoken to about 16 or –

UNIDENTIFIED: 19.

PREMIER WYNNE: –19. I can't keep track. 19.

UNIDENTIFIED: I've been keeping track. I'm going to ring a bell when we hit 20.

Q: So in those conversations, how much feedback are you getting that everyone's on the same page, that U.S. governors do you want to keep NAFTA mostly intact? Does it sort of – how's it reconciled with what we're hearing often from the administration; use more protectionist, more extremist views?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well, I have to say that I'm not hearing the protectionist extremist views at the state level. I'm actually hearing that state governors want to make sure that the relationships are strong. And now, I'm the Premier of Ontario. I can't speak for their conversations with other jurisdictions, but what I know is that in these conversations, these 19 conversations that I've had, there's a really deep understanding that we're interconnected, that we need to build on that interconnectivity, that breaking that relationship is not in anyone's best interests, and of course,

I'm standing up for Ontario and Ontario workers and Ontario jobs. They're standing up for their state jobs. But there's a shared interest and so there is absolutely no percentage in breaking the relationship for the sake of ideology and displacing people from jobs. I haven't heard that once.

Q: Do you get the sense that governors are trying to exude this sort of calmness that, you know, we will work on the administration and we'll try to, you know, we will make sure that they recognize our shared interests?

PREMIER WYNNE: You know what? There's been an element of that. I mean, of course, many of the governors that I've spoken to are Republican and have strong connections to the White House. One of the things I have said to them is who can we talk to, how can we be helpful, are there people that you can talk to for us, meaning the collective, you know, our shared interests. And so those kinds of initiatives, I hope, will continue into the coming weeks as this gets clearer exactly what the negotiations are going to be about.

Q: In those, talking about Republicans, do they seem to be emphasizing their connection to the White House or more distancing themselves from the White House?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well, it's not a tactical conversation. We're not really having that discussion, but the fact is that they have connections. All of the governors that I talk to have connections in Washington, and I was in Washington a couple of weeks ago and I spoke to congress people and senators and so we're doing that direct outreach as well. And in fact, one of the governors I spoke to today actually said 'Well talking to our congress people would be a good idea.' So we'll continue to do that as well but they are doing that. I mean, they're telling me that they're doing that; they're talking to their congressmen and congresswomen and senators and so they're delivering that same message I can only assume.

Q: We're probably reaching our time limit, but you mentioned points of tension as well. And so with U.S., the big ones are dairy and softwood lumber.

PREMIER WYNNE: You got it. So softwood lumber, I'm really hoping – I've got my fingers and my toes crossed that we'll actually be able to see a softwood lumber deal before we get to NAFTA.

Q: Really?

PREMIER WYNNE: That would be my sincere hope.

Q: I know that –

PREMIER WYNNE: It's been going a long time.

Q: Right. Is there a clear indication that it can get done in the next (inaudible)?

PREMIER WYNNE: I wouldn't say "clear" but I would say that there is some optimism. My hope is that we'll be able to get there. And I'm going to be seeing Chrystia Freeland here who's our federal minister who's talking with Wilbur Ross. My hope is that we'll be able to get things done. I know that the industry is weighing in on what's going to determine (inaudible) to this point.

Q: It's ongoing. It's been going on for 70 years now. I mean, I guess maybe there will be an agreement beforehand and if it's one that everyone is happy with then it seems like it will be a

non-issue in the talks. But is there – do you have any worry that either one of those will sort of loom over NAFTA? I mean, it seems like they won't be brought into the NAFTA, that that would be too difficult but that the tenor of how dairy and softwood lumber are going might sort of effect (inaudible).

PREMIER WYNNE: Well, as I say, I'm hopeful about softwood. So I'm going to hold on to my optimism. You're right about dairy and agriculture. They are – it's a challenging subject. And it's something that Ontario has had to deal with in our conversations around CETA; NAFTA, likewise. So it's something that we're going to have to contend with. But again, we met with Secretary Perdue a few weeks ago and I think we can all agree that, for the most part, the relationship is so good, we're going to have to continue – my guess is we're going to be talking about dairy for a long time to come. And so, we have to accept that that's going to be an ongoing tension, ongoing discussion. Let's not let it undermine the rest of the relationship.

Q: And that includes 'let's not let it undermine the NAFTA talk'

PREMIER WYNNE: Let's not let it undermine the NAFTA talk, yeah.

Q: All right, that's all. Thank you very much.

PREMIER WYNNE: Oh, you're very welcome.

PREMIER'S REMARKS AND AVAIL BEFORE GOING TO THE NATIONAL GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION MEETING (2017.07.13)

July 13, 2017

Time / Location:

10:30 a.m. / Government Caucus Room, Legislature.

Speakers:

Premier Kathleen Wynne

Media Attendance:

Print – 8

TV –
7

Radio – 2

Media Outlets:

Rushowy – Star; Giovanetti – Globe; Jeffords – Sun; Zochodne – QP Briefing; Reynolds – QP Briefing; Crawley – CBC Radio/TV; Fitzpatrick – CBC Online; Cooper – Newstalk 1010; Qureshi – 680 News; Rath – CHCH Television; Morissette – TFO; Gutfreund – CP24; Kramer – Unidentified media outlet.

Statement:

PREMIER KATHLEEN WYNNE: Thanks everyone for coming this morning. I wanted to have a chance to talk with you before I head off to Rhode Island. I'll be joining Prime Minister Trudeau at the National Governors Association Meeting. And I've been looking forward to going to this meeting. As many of you know, I have had the opportunity to speak to a number of governors in the States over the last months, and I had been planning to attend the National Governors Association Meeting in order to reconnect with some of the governors that I've already spoken to and also to meet some of the governors that I haven't yet had a chance to talk with. This is a really important moment for Ontario in the context of Canadian-American relations. The trade relationship between Canada and the United States, between Ontario and the United States is critical to the well-being of both jurisdictions and that's really the underpinning of the conversations that I'll be having with governors and that I have been having with governors for the last number of months. We've been talking about the future of that economic partnership and how we can continue to strengthen the relationship because although there has been a long history of a strong trade connection, right now there are pressures that we all are aware of. There's an increasing pressure and force from protectionism that we have to deal with. It's a time of uncertainty. We don't know exactly what that protectionist sentiment is going to lead to. We know that the renegotiation of NAFTA is imminent. There is some urgency we know that sometime in the next week or so there will be more clarity on what the mandate for the renegotiation of NAFTA will look like. And although the federal government takes the lead on those negotiations, provincial governments are very close to them and provincial governments have a very important role in making sure that our interests are made very clear to the federal negotiators. And so these opportunities to talk with our partners in the United States are important. And I have to say that the conversations that I've had so far have given me a lot of confidence that the leadership in states in America; the leadership understands how important the connections are. The fact is that many states - over 25 states in the United States, about 28 - have Ontario as their number one or number two export market. And so that makes the economies very, very linked. So it's extremely important to me that I do everything that I can to continue to support and grow Ontario's economy. And I say that in the context of some momentum that we have established here in Ontario. The results from our first quarter in Ontario are out. Once again Ontario has posted solid economic growth, outstripping what we had

expected the growth to be and going beyond the growth of the United States, of G-7 countries and of Canada as a whole. So Ontario is doing very, very well in that national and international context. But that, you know that only for me reinforces why it's important that we continue to find ways to strengthen and grow the economy. My plan and our plan is focused on making sure that every worker and every family in Ontario is part of that growth and benefits from that growth and feels the impact of the progress that Ontario is making, and is able to find new opportunities and find a job that will pay them a decent wage, a living wage, and a fair wage and in a fair workplace. So in order to protect those gains, in order to keep building on our momentum, I'm not going to take a wait and see approach to NAFTA negotiations. That's why it was always my intention to go to the National Governors Association. That's why I will continue my outreach to governors in the states and so I'm very much looking forward to these meetings. I'm going to have some specific meetings with governors as well as attending plenary sessions and being part of some panel discussions. I'll be meeting with governors of Oklahoma and Iowa, Nevada, Colorado, Kentucky and those are all states for whom Ontario is their number one or number two trading market. So it's very, very important to both our jurisdiction and theirs. As I said, this is a critical moment. We are all dealing with uncertainty, international uncertainty, but that's exactly why I'm going to Rhode Island. That's exactly why I'm going to go and have these conversations in order to highlight the ways that our economies are interconnected and the ways in which that interconnection have-- interconnection has made all of our businesses and our jurisdictions more competitive and has created millions of jobs, not just here in Ontario and in Canada, but in the United States as well. There are millions of jobs that are dependent on that connected economic relationship.

[Speaking French 6:02-6:30] I am going to the National Governors Association Meeting as part my strategy to represent Ontario in the United States. We are a crucial time period. The relationships I am building will defend the interests of workers and businesses in Ontario. And the strategy will also help the states understand the importance of free trade with Ontario.

[Speaking English] So I am-- I continue to be committed to standing up for the interests of Ontario, for our workers, for our businesses, and as I said, to continue the momentum that we have established here in Ontario that is a result of decisions that have been made here and a result of the connection that we have with our trading partners in the United States. So I'm happy to take your questions.

Media Questions:

Q. Cooper: I have a question, three questions regarding the marijuana consultations. So if the federal government has already drafted the framework, why hold these consultations? Will these consultations be made public once they're completed? And if there is overwhelming support for a minimum age, either below or above 18, would your government adhere to that age?

So the framework that the federal government has put in place is just that; it's a framework. The actual implementation of the new protocols and the new regulations actually has to happen at the provincial level. And so as other provinces are doing we are consulting on a number of the issues that have to be decided. So yes we'll be paying attention to the input that we get but we will also be looking broadly at what other jurisdictions are doing. So for example, this will be a conversation at the Council of the Federation of Canada's premiers. So when I get back from Rhode Island, then I will be heading to Edmonton to meet with the rest of the premiers from the country and the issues around cannabis will be part of that conversation because each province has to implement

	their own regime, their own regulate – regulatory process. So – so yes, we'll be listening very carefully to what the people of Ontario say. We'll be looking also at what other jurisdictions are doing and then we'll make decisions. But my bottom line is that this has to be about public safety. It has to be a protection of youth, and we have to look at other jurisdictions and look at what lessons we can – we can learn from – from other jurisdictions and then make those decisions judiciously.
Q. Rath: Previously, you said that the LCBO (inaudible) be the place to sell (inaudible). Do you still believe that?	So there are – there are lots of options that are being looked at right now. I firmly believe that having – having a regulatory regime in place that – that protects and – and has some controls on – on cannabis similar or analogous to the kinds of controls that we have on alcohol, I think that's a good thing. Whether it's the LCBO, whether it's some other mechanism, all those things are being looked at but I happen to be someone who believes that having those regulatory – that having that regulatory framework in place is a good thing and will allow us to as I say protect the public and particularly protect youth.
Q. Rath: So a government agency would – would handle the sale.	Some kind of government role, some kind of government regulatory role, that's certainly something that I – that I expect we will bring forward.
Q. Gutfreund: (inaudible) restructuring plan, the company is in court today. They're seeking permission to make cuts to its benefits and special payments to its pension plan. Does the government have any plan to make sure that the Sears employees who've been contributing into these pensions and benefits for decades don't lose them?	So let me just first say that it is never a good news story when people are losing their jobs. And so, you know, when I – when I hear the stories reported and I read about them, my first thought is for those families whose – whose jobs are on the line. So that – that's my – that's my first concern. There are – there are a lot of steps that have to be gone through. The minister of – the Ministry of Economic Development is paying very close attention to what's happening. But at this point we don't have – we don't have a role to play, but we are – you know, we are very concerned when – when a large number of people like this are – are at risk of losing not just their jobs but as you say their future security.
Q. Gutfreund: And these pensioners, they're generally last in line to receive any kind of compensation. They're (inaudible) behind creditors and CEOs. Is there any way that, you know, some changes of the – or that the law can be amended to make sure that they're not	Well, again, as I say, there hasn't – there isn't a role for the government at this point. We're paying very close attention to it. My hope would be that the people who have given, you know, many of the good years of their life, that they are treated well in a situation like this. But you know, we're in a situation right now where there are – there are transformations happening in our

last in line to receive any kind of compensation?	economy. There is a – there are changes that are happening. This is an example of – of one of those changes. But you can look across advanced manufacturing, look at agri-food, there are transformations happening that – that are displacing people and that's why it's really important for us as government to do everything that we can. You're asking a specific question about a specific company. We don't have a role at this point. But if you look at decisions that we are making to make sure that people are supported, whether it's having pharmacare, the OHIP+ plan that we're putting in place, whether it's making sure that kids have free tuition, trying to make sure that people have the supports that they need so that they can a) take part in the economy and b) that they can be supported.
Q. Kramer: I have a question about textbooks. For the past three years, Grade 6 students in 800 Ontario schools have been taught that Israel forces child soldiers into combat. I'm wondering how this (inaudible) could have gotten through the vetting process including the Ministry of Education?	So the Minister of Education I'm sure will be able to speak to you about that specifically. My understanding is that it is a mistake that was put into a textbook by a publisher. This has nothing to do with the Ontario curriculum. And so my hope is that it's being corrected as we speak.
Q. Kramer: Now B'nai Brith has asked for an apology from the Minister of Education. They also want a retraction when new books go back into the school system to make sure that they are never seen again, but the ministry has not responded to B'nai Brith.	Well you know what? As I said, I know that the Minister of Education will – will respond and we will certainly make sure that – that there's an engagement with B'nai Brith on this. It's unacceptable – it's unacceptable and I hope it's –
Q. Kramer: (inaudible)	– I hope it's being corrected. Well, the Minister of Education is – the ministry is still here and they will be able to – they'll be able to engage with B'nai Brith.
Q. Kramer: (inaudible)	Well, we'll – you know what? We'll make sure that there is – that there's an engagement and as I said, I hope it's being corrected right now because it's unacceptable.
Q. Rushowy: (inaudible) from businesses about minimum wage and how they can absorb such a high rise in I guess such a short amount of time. Are you willing to listen to them and (inaudible)?	We have said very clearly that we are going to work with small business. I know that there are – there are some small businesses that – that are concerned about this, that are feeling challenges. There are other small businesses that are feeling very much that this is the way that they need to go and that this is – or have already gone there and this is something that will help

	them to retain a strong work force. The committee hearings are happening right now across the province. And, you know, we'll be looking for – we'll be looking for good ideas in terms of how to work with small business. But again, you know, back to our earlier – the earlier conversation about uncertainty and people feeling the – feeling the impacts of a changing economy. We need to – we need to make sure that in Ontario, if you are working full time, if you are earning a full-time wage, that you're actually able to look after yourself and you're actually able to look after your family in a decent way and in a fair way. And so – so that's – that's why we're making the changes that we're making. And as I said, we understand that we – we do need to work with small business and look for ways to support them as they go through this transition.
Q. Fitzpatrick: Given Ontario's concern in lobbying against the Buy America policies in Texas and New York, will you be raising them with other governments that you meet with trying to warn them like you did with the other states that may go that route Ontario is prepared to retaliate? Or are you less concerned about Buy America now and more focused on the NAFTA concern?	No, you know, we are still – we're still concerned about Buy America, but the way I come at the conversation is not a threat. It is – it is much more in the – in the spirit of, look we have a very shared interest here. You know, we have a very shared interest in that there are thousands of jobs in your jurisdiction and thousands of jobs in my jurisdiction that are dependent on each other, dependent on each other's companies. And so to – to put in place policies that raise the trade barriers – barriers that – that decrease that connectivity is actually bad for both of us. And that is a compelling argument and in fact that is the argument that we've made both in Texas and in – in New York. So yes, I will continue to make that argument. There actually three fronts: there's NAFTA, there's the border adjustment tax discussion, and there's Buy America. So we talk about all of those in each of the conversations that I – that I've had and will have.
Q: Fitzpatrick: Given that you are the only Canadian Premier going to this conference, well you will be representing Ontario's interests obviously. Do you see yourself sort of as a representative for the Premiers in general and advocating for provincial interests?	Well I don't have a formal role as a representative of the Premiers and I wouldn't presume to be that but we're the largest province in the country. And so when I when I talk about the relationship between Ontario and the individual states, I inevitably end up talking about the relationship between Canada and those states. So it is it's a very easy transition into a discussion about the whole, the whole, country and that's why I think it's you know I think I think it's great that the prime minister is going to be at the National Governors Association. I think having me there as the premier of the largest province and having the prime minister there really reinforces how national this concern is and how shared our position is on the

	importance of our economies.
Q: Qureshi: Premier a couple weeks ago the federal government announced infrastructure funding. The province is getting over \$8B, half of that is to go to Toronto for transit funding but only if the province matches that by 33%. Will your government be matching?	We are, we are there, you know, we have been there. There is more money in our budget for infrastructure funding right now there's over \$10 billion dollars of provincial money being invested in Toronto to build transit. There was more money in our in our recent budget to continue building transit. So we are we're thrilled that the federal government has come forward. \$190 billion dollars over 13 years is a huge investment. And so we're thrilled that the federal government is stepping up and they are going to work with us and with municipalities.
Q: Qureshi: So you are going to match.	We are going to be we're going to be working with the municipalities and the federal government as we have been.
Q: Qureshi: A follow up question. You know the relationship between the city and the province has not be the greatest in the last six or seven months. Do you feel like this announcement by the federal government is forcing you match that 33%? Do you feel like they have forced your hand? How do you react to this?	Well as I said, we're already there you know. This is not about asking Ontario to make a new commitment. We've already made the commitment. Some of that money is already being invested. Some of it is new money for a new projects but we're already there so it's – it's really not a push at all and I think that I will just say again, it is extremely important to me that the relationship between the province and municipalities, like the relationship between the province and the federal government, is one where there is an open door, there is a conversation that is ongoing and will there be moments where we don't agree absolutely. But is it important that we continue to engage? It is – it is critical to the well-being, you know people who live in Toronto they're interested in whether the LRT is going to be built or whether that subway is going to be built or whether they're going to have new infrastructure, new hospitals, new schools. That's what they're interested in. And they – they know that that is far more likely if the province the municipality and the federal government are working together. We are working together and that's why the infrastructure is being built.
Q: Jeffords: We have seen a couple of months of home sales slide. I am wondering for you what the fine line in determining the success of your measures, determining the success of your measures in April and any overcorrection?	So I'm going to quote the chief economist of the Bank of Montreal and Douglas Porter said: "Ontario's housing measures hit the Bull's-Eye." So he talked about a calmer market. Our sixteen point Fair Housing Plan was designed exactly to – to calm the market, not to have to kill the market but to calm the market and. And we're monitoring it closely. You know it was a sophisticated response to an overheating of the market

	and we will see over the coming months what the – what the impact has been. But you know I'm pretty confident that the range of things that we put in place is having the desired effect and will continue to.
Q: Jeffords: So you are no ruling out any more actions then?	Well I said all along we'd be monitoring and looking at what the impact was and determining you know what we had done that was working, determining what we had done that wasn't working and what more needed to be done. But at this point, at this point, I think that we've got enough in place much of which really hasn't had an opportunity to have an impact yet. We just, you know, we just brought the measures in. We just started talking about these measures and are implementing them now. So I think we have to we have to give it some time to see what the impact will be.
Q: Zochodne: To go back to clarify what you are saying about marijuana. So is your government looking at creating a crown agency, a crown corporation, that sells drugs?	So we are right now in the process of looking at the federal framework. We've got a consultation online right now for Ontarians to take part in across the province and we've got officials looking at what the possibilities are. All I'm saying is that I think that a regulatory regime that protects the public and protects young people and puts some constraints analogous to constraints that we have around alcohol. I think that that makes sense. What that will look like hasn't been determined.
Q: Zochodne: So grocery stores too as well?	It hasn't been determined.
Q: Gutfreund: (Inaudible) interest rates, how do you think this is going to affect the housing market, especially for those young first time homebuyers who are looking to enter into the housing market?	You know what I really I think that we have to wait and see. There is lots of analysis going on right now. The measures that we put in place were designed to cool an overheated market and we're just going to wait and see what the – what the impact is and so far it looks like it is having the desired impact.
Q: Crawley: Now that you have some stats about the extent of foreign buyers in the GTA. What do you think those stats say about the impact buyers were or are having on the market?	Well again I am not an economist and I am not going to give you a full, I'm not going to be able to give you a full analysis of that partly because we haven't got many months of data but I think that I think that the decisions that we made, the housing plan that we brought in, was designed to shine a light on some of these things. That is exactly what has happened. I suspect that some people might have thought that the foreign buyers numbers were higher than they actually are. And so you know I think that that's important information for us all to have as we as we monitor the

	impact of the changes that we've made.
Q: Zochodne: Do you feel vindicated about the giant rubber duck?	I am so pleased that people were able to have fun. You know I think that summer is a time when families are looking for opportunities to enjoy themselves. And if the duck gave people the opportunity to do that then that's a good thing and it certainly seems that that was the case because of the crowds that went to see it. And I have a lot of faith in local leaders to make decisions around the festivals that are going to draw people to their jurisdictions. Thanks everybody. Merci.
<i>N.B.: Comments captured are not verbatim quotes</i>	

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PREMIER WYNNE ANNOUNCEMENT AND MEDIA AVAIL AT QUEEN'S PARK (2017.07.13)

July 13, 2017

Location:

Main Legislative Building, Room 247, Queen's Park

Speakers:

Premier Kathleen Wynne

Media Attendance:

Print – 5 TV – 4 Radio – 1

Media Outlets:

Leslie – CP; Babbage – CP; Benzie – Star; Ferguson – Star; Cohn – Star; Mills – Star; Radwanski – Globe; Morrow – Globe; Blizzard – Sun; Artuso – Sun; Crone - QP Briefing; Csandy - QP Briefing; Bingley - QP Briefing; Reeves - QP Briefing; Crawley - CBC Radio/TV; Franzios – CFRB 1010 Radio; Close - 680News; Noel - Radio Canada/CJBC; Gregoire - Radio Canada TV; Carter – Global; Bliss - CTV Ontario; Stamou - CTV Ontario; Rath - CHCH Television; Tumelty - City TV

Media Questions:

PREMIER KATHLEEN WYNNE: Thanks everyone for coming this morning. I wanted to have a chance to talk with you before I head off to Rhode Island. I'll be joining Prime Minister Trudeau at the National Governors Association Meeting. And I've been looking forward to going to this meeting. As many of you know, I have had the opportunity to speak to a number of governors in the States over the last months, and I had been planning to attend the National Governors Association Meeting in order to reconnect with some of the governors that I've already spoken to and also to meet some of the governors that I haven't yet had a chance to talk with. This is a really important moment for Ontario in the context of Canadian-American relations. The trade relationship between Canada and the United States, between Ontario and the United States is critical to the well-being of both jurisdictions and that's really the underpinning of the conversations that I'll be having with governors and that I have been having with governors for the last number of months. We've been talking about the future of that economic partnership and how we can continue to strengthen the relationship because although there has been a long history of a strong trade connection, right now there are pressures that we all are aware of. There's an increasing pressure and force from protectionism that we have to deal with. It's a time of uncertainty. We don't know exactly what that protectionist sentiment is going to lead to. We know that the renegotiation of NAFTA is imminent. There is some urgency we know that sometime in the next week or so there will be more clarity on what the mandate for the renegotiation of NAFTA will look like. And although the federal government takes the lead on those negotiations, provincial governments are very close to them and provincial governments have a very important role in making sure that our interests are made very clear to the federal negotiators. And so these opportunities to talk with our partners in the United States are important. And I have to say that the conversations that I've had so far have given me a lot of confidence that the leadership in states in America; the leadership understands how important the connections are. The fact is that many states - over 25 states in the United States, about 28 - have Ontario as their number one or number two export market. And so that makes the economies very, very linked. So it's extremely important to me that I do everything that I can to continue to support and grow Ontario's economy. And I say that in the context of some momentum that we have established here in Ontario. The results from our first quarter in Ontario are out. Once again Ontario has posted solid economic

growth, outstripping what we had expected the growth to be and going beyond the growth of the United States, of G-7 countries and of Canada as a whole. So Ontario is doing very, very well in that national and international context. But that, you know that only for me reinforces why it's important that we continue to find ways to strengthen and grow the economy. My plan and our plan is focused on making sure that every worker and every family in Ontario is part of that growth and benefits from that growth and feels the impact of the progress that Ontario is making, and is able to find new opportunities and find a job that will pay them a decent wage, a living wage, and a fair wage and in a fair workplace. So in order to protect those gains, in order to keep building on our momentum, I'm not going to take a wait and see approach to NAFTA negotiations. That's why it was always my intention to go to the National Governors Association. That's why I will continue my outreach to governors in the states and so I'm very much looking forward to these meetings. I'm going to have some specific meetings with governors as well as attending plenary sessions and being part of some panel discussions. I'll be meeting with governors of Oklahoma and Iowa, Nevada, Colorado, Kentucky and those are all states for whom Ontario is their number one or number two trading market. So it's very, very important to both our jurisdiction and theirs. As I said, this is a critical moment. We are all dealing with uncertainty, international uncertainty, but that's exactly why I'm going to Rhode Island. That's exactly why I'm going to go and have these conversations in order to highlight the ways that our economies are interconnected and the ways in which that interconnection have-- interconnection has made all of our businesses and our jurisdictions more competitive and has created millions of jobs, not just here in Ontario and in Canada, but in the United States as well. There are millions of jobs that are dependent on that connected economic relationship.

[Speaking French 6:02-6:30]

[Speaking English] So I am-- I continue to be committed to standing up for the interests of Ontario, for our workers, for our businesses, and as I said, to continue the momentum that we have established here in Ontario that is a result of decisions that have been made here and a result of the connection that we have with our trading partners in the United States. So I'm happy to take your questions.

Q. COOPER: I have a question, three questions regarding the marijuana consultations. So if the federal government has already drafted the framework, why hold these consultations? Will these consultations be made public once they're completed? And if there is overwhelming support for a minimum age, either below or above 18, would your government adhere to that age?

PREMIER WYNNE: So the framework that the federal government has put in place is just that; it's a framework. The actual implementation of the new protocols and the new regulations actually has to happen at the provincial level. And so as other provinces are doing we are consulting on a number of the issues that have to be decided. So yes we'll be paying attention to the input that we get but we will also be looking broadly at what other jurisdictions are doing. So for example, this will be a conversation at the Council of the Federation of Canada's premiers. So when I get back from Rhode Island then I will be heading to Edmonton to meet with the rest of the premiers from the country and the issues around cannabis will be part of that conversation because each province has to implement their own regime, their own regulatory process.

N.B.: Comments captured are not verbatim quotes

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PREMIER WYNNE'S REMARKS PREMIER AT THE MUSTARD SEED CO-OP (2017.06.16)

Date: June 16, 2017
Length: 07:39 minutes
Speaker(s): Premier Kathleen Wynne

PREMIER KATHLEEN WYNNE: Thank you very much Graham and it's wonderful to be here with you and with your team. Thank you so much. It's great to be here with my friend Ted McMeekin, Your Worship Fred Eisenberger, great to see you here. And to everyone who works at the Mustard Seed, thank you. Thank you very much for the tour but more than that thank you for being this great community business. You know, businesses like the Mustard Seed strengthen communities and Graham has already talked about the living wage. But on so many levels, whether it's the local farmers and producers who come in and talk to the community about their business and their produce or whether it's the fact that you've got students working here and you've got students working here who are going to go on to university because of the great start that you have given them. So thank you for what you've created here. And I understand that Ted you were one of the early founding members as well of the co-op and you've grown over three years very quickly, Graham so, congratulations. We wanted to be here this morning. Ted has talked about the Mustard Seed and has encouraged me to come and see this great business. And we wanted to come here this morning to talk a little bit about the Fair Workplace, Better Jobs plan that we are putting in place. And we're putting it in place expressly for the reason that Graham just talked about; you know having a workplace that is stable; that allows people to have a living wage. And your chair, Mary Lou was here and she was the chair of the board. Mary Lou was talking about the decision that the board made right from the beginning; that the Mustard Seed would be a place where people could support their families, could support themselves, look after themselves by virtue of it being a stable workplace. And that has to do with the living wage but it also has to do with scheduling and the ability to have a predictable schedule and be able to plan your week, your month, your life. And so all of those things are part of our Fair Workplace plan. We're living right now in a province that is doing very well. Our economy's growing. We're leading growth across the country. We're outstripping the growth of the United States, G7 countries. But not everybody is sharing in that evenly. And so what we are doing is what I think government exists to do and that is to do the things that people can't do by themselves. You know, an individual family or an individual person can't control the economic forces of the world. But what government can do is create some stability and help individuals and help families to cope with some of the global uncertainty that we're dealing with. And in Ontario we can look to the United States, we can look to Europe, to see the signs of that global insecurity. So we are -- now that we are in a position as a government to have balanced our budget for the first time in nearly 10 years we are able to do things like make sure that young people have access to post-secondary education. We talked to Robin this morning who is going to be able to go to university or go -- I don't know if it's college or university he is going to -- going to university because he's going to be able to access free tuition. That's going to change that young man's life. And there are more than 200,000 students across the province who this September are going to be able to access college or university without having to worry about the debt load that they would have had to worry about a year ago. So that's going to make a huge difference. We are lowering people's electricity prices and we're doing that because we know that the rebuilding that we had to do of the system has a cost associated with it and people need a break on their electricity bills now. And so we spread the cost of those improvements over a longer period of time. We put in our budget OHIP Plus,

which is -- that is a plan to as of January 1st, 2018 provide free prescription medication for kids from 0 to their 25th birthday. That is going to make a difference to those young kids because they're going to have access to medication that they need but it's also going to make a difference to their families who are dealing with the -- again that economic uncertainty and making ends meet. So those are changes that we have made. Some of them started a couple of years ago. Some of them are starting now. Two years ago we asked two commissioners to review the Changing Workplace. We asked them to come up with some recommendations for us and we are now in a position to implement those recommendations. And yes, it's about raising the minimum wage to \$15 over two years. So January 1st, 2018 the minimum wage will go to \$14. January 1st, 2019 it will go to \$15 but it's also about part-time and full-time workers; making sure that if you're doing exactly the same work, whether you're doing it part-time or full-time you're paid the same wage. It's about scheduling. It's about being able to take emergency leave and deal with a health crisis in your family without being afraid of losing your job. And so we're going to put in place 10 -- 10 personal emergency leave days and two of those will be paid. All of those initiatives are part of the Fair Workplace, Better Jobs plan. And they are about providing a decent workplace, a decent living for people in this province. And of course that's good for those families. But it's also good for the community because those people will be loyal to their workplace. It's good for business because as you said Graham you have that stable workforce. And we know that there are many businesses like the Mustard Seed that have already made that decision. They've already stepped up and put in place those conditions. But we want to make sure that everybody in the province is able to work in a workplace like that. And you know we're in competition with places like New York, San Francisco, Alberta and now Illinois is moving to a \$15 minimum wage. So we're not at the head of the parade on this. We are actually playing catch up to some other jurisdictions that have already moved in that direction. I believe firmly that the investments that we have made in people, in communities is why we are doing as well as we are in Ontario. It's why we are able to see that economic growth that we're seeing. And so we need to make sure that we build on that and we continue to do what government does the best, which is be a force for good in people's lives. And as I say do those things that we can't do by ourselves. So I'm very, very happy and inspired to have had the opportunity to be here this morning. Thank you to Graham and his team. And I look forward to working with small businesses and businesses across the province as they implement these changes.

*PREMIER WYNNE'S FIRESIDE CHAT AT CANADA 2020 CONFERENCE IN OTTAWA
(2017.06.15)*

Date: June 15, 2017
Length: 20:57 minutes
Speaker(s): Premier Kathleen Wynne;
Don Newman, Chairman of Canada 2020's Advisory Board

MODERATOR: My name is Don Newman. I work at Navigator but I'm also the Chairman of the Canada 2020 Advisory Board, and Premier, it's great to have you back in Ottawa. Great to have you again in Canada 2020, and you've been a very good supporter of Canada 2020. It's nice to see you again.

PREMIER KATHLEEN WYNNE: Well it's a pleasure to be here although I have to say I'm surprised as anybody in the room because I thought everybody was at Ribfest. We just walked on (inaudible) through a cloud of smoke. It was amazing down there.

MODERATOR: Well, looks like Ottawa's on fire, doesn't it. Let's talk first, because let's bring it back to the moment. I mean artificial intelligence, all those things are important; innovation is the key to the future, but also the key to the immediate future is what happens in the NAFTA negotiations with the Americans. The Americans are so important as an export market, particularly for Ontario, but for all of Canada. You have been very aggressively trying to defend Canada's access to the American market. You stared down Andrew Cuomo in New York over there Buy New York bill and you've been busy with other premiers going to the United States. Tell me first, what is your sense now from the United States, is there going to be a major reshuffling of NAFTA? Are we going to be in serious jeopardy or do you think that, at one point Donald Trump said he was going to tweak it for Canada, but since then he sounds quite different.

PREMIER WYNNE: First of all, thank you for having me and thanks everybody for being here. I think that the central issue that we're dealing with right now is unpredictability. I was just in Washington, as you say, with some of my colleague premiers from the Council of the Federation of Premiers and we met with Congressmen we met with senators – sometimes as a group. We met with Steve Schwartzman who is on the Advisory Commission to the President. In every single one of those conversations, and I might say, Don, in the conversations that I've been having with governors because I've been reaching out on a one-to-one basis to governors in the States, mostly Republican but from both sides of the aisle, and these are governors whose states trade with Ontario for whom Ontario is their number one or number two market. There are 28 states for whom Ontario is the number one or number two market. 20 number one market 8 number two market. So it's a hugely important relationship, and all of that is in the context of there are 9 million jobs in the United States that are dependent on Canada. So we're dealing with a very important relationship to start out with and the reason I go over that is that in every conversation that I've had, whether it's with governors whether it's with a Republican senator or a Democratic congressman, they get that. They understand that. That's not what we're hearing in the newspaper. That's not the political discussion – political discourse that we're hearing, but that's the reality. They understand how important it is. So we go and talk with governors and they talk about Linamar or Magna. And I sat beside Brendan Bechtel who's the CEO of Bechtel International and they build all over the world, and he's building – he's part of the build of the

Eglinton Crosstown in my own riding. So the reality is that these are companies that understand. These are politicians who understand how integrated our economy is, but they don't know either, exactly what's going to happen at the federal level. They will have input into the NAFTA discussion. Most of them – all of them that I spoke to – want to see NAFTA remain intact. They acknowledge that there are changes that they'd like to see. I mean, we all agreed that there's a huge hole in terms of the digital economy, e-commerce. There's not language in NAFTA because at the time NAFTA was over 20 years ago, that wasn't an issue. There are environmental and labor regulations and protocols that could be improved. We all agree that we'd like to see improvements but we just don't know, collectively, exactly what the direction will be from the White House. What I have to do is I have to keep doing exactly what you outlined. I have to keep reaching out. I try to talk to governors, different governors every week. I am going to be going to the National Governors Association in Rhode Island this summer, and we will continue these conversations because as we get into the NAFTA negotiations, Ontario is a subnational. We're not going to be at the table, but we will be very much involved in the discussion with our federal counterparts who will be at the table. You know, Ontario is, as I say, Ontario is outstripping the growth of the rest of the country right now. So we need to keep that going.

MODERATOR: Well, it's about 40 per cent of the national economy, so it's very important (inaudible). So in addition to NAFTA and changes to NAFTA, there's also talk in the United States – I'm sure you've heard it too – about a border tax; a 20 per cent border tax on all imports to the United States. It seems to me that that would be incredibly punitive for Ontario but for all of Canada. Are you worried that there is a 20 per cent border tax or any per cent border tax coming?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well we talked about the border adjustment tax a lot. I didn't find any fans of it, I have to say. My understanding is, businesses like Wal-Mart are not keen because they'll see everybody's prices go up. I think that, again, we have to be vigilant because of this uncertainty that we're dealing with, we have to keep having those discussions. And you mentioned New York and the Buy New Yorker or Buy America provision which we did. We put people on the ground. I sent Minister Duguid, our Minister of Economic Development and Growth, and Michael Chan, our Minister of International Trade. They went to New York. They were on the ground talking with legislators. We have a representative in Washington who has traveled – travels all the time and talks to folks, and so we had a presence on the ground in New York as those decisions were being made. And then we saw a discussion pop up in Texas, and so we worked with Albert. In New York, we worked with Quebec, and in Texas we were working with Alberta. Now, it passed in Texas but there's still, you know, we will still remain engaged with the Governor's Office to see if there are changes that we can make. So the point I'm making is that we have to be vigilant. We have to listen very, very closely to the different regions of the States. We have to have people on the ground and we have to have these relationships. In every conversation, I talk about a border adjustment tax; I talk about NAFTA and I talk about Buy America and reinforce how important the relationship is. One of the discussions that we had over and over when I was in Washington is the notion of collateral damage because there is a sense in which much of the rhetoric is targeted at Mexico. Now, I will just say I believe that the trilateral discussion is very important. I think that there are huge risks associated with Mexico being cut off from this relationship. There are huge risks, again, for Canadian and American companies but huge risks for the quality of life of people in Mexico. That is sort of the North American sensibility but we have to also recognize that Canada and Ontario could be collateral damage if there is a serious shift to blow NAFTA up, which I don't think is going to happen now, but again, it's unpredictable.

MODERATOR: To your point about Mexico, Mexico has a tremendous trade surplus with the United States.

PREMIER WYNNE: We don't know exactly –

MODERATOR: Particularly with the low price of oil, we actually have a deficit at the moment. The normal price goes up, we'll probably have a surplus again. But again, it's what they call an essential import, right.

PREMIER WYNNE: Yes.

MODERATOR: They don't tax it. Is there a point where we would have to say, to avoid being collateral damage, 'well Mexico, you're going to have to deal with your trade surplus with the Americans on your own because otherwise we will become collateral damage'?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well again, we're not there and the federal government will be leading that discussion, but I believe that, in the best interests of all of North America, we should maintain a trilateral discussion. Now, don't get me wrong, and I said this to folks in the States: there are people here who are not happy with NAFTA, who think that it needs to be changed in a much more major way. But I think when you look at the examples of an automobile that crosses the border nine times before it's finally ready to go to market; it's pretty hard to argue that we haven't got an integrated system. And so, that's what we need to preserve and expand.

MODERATOR: And just briefly before we move on, we're talking about modernizing NAFTA in the sense to take account of all the changes in the economy. But one of the stumbling blocks for Canada could be the supply management system which is actually part of the oldest part of the economy there is. Just farming, and basic farming at that; milk and poultry.

PREMIER WYNNE: I haven't talked so much about dairy cows since I was the Minister of Agriculture and Food. I have to tell you, the cheese and milk was at the top of every discussion in the States. It's hugely important, and one of the one of the challenges that we have, Don, is that supply management has actually created a controlled supply and demand in Ontario and in Quebec. There's a surplus of dairy products in some of the states and we're kind of being blamed for that because they can't – but the dumping of those dairy products isn't necessarily – it's not Canadian, it's from other regions so that is a challenge. We will defend our supply management system. It works very well, and as I say, it's a rational system to control the supply and demand. There have been tweaks to it already, but we be will be standing pretty close to Quebec on that one.

MODERATOR: Now we talked about the border tax. One of the reasons that the Americans are talking about a border tax is so that they can cut corporate taxes in particular but also personal income taxes, and to replace the revenue they want to put a tax on imports. As you look at what is going to happen in Washington, and certainly they are going to cut their corporate and personal income taxes, border tax or no I would say. So do you think we can stay competitive if our taxes are higher, and when we think of, say of your plans which I think generally have been well received by – not by everybody, not by employers maybe, but to stage the raises in the minimum wage and actually increased costs on business, do you think that this is the time to be doing that when the Americans are definitely going to be cutting taxes?

PREMIER WYNNE: So let me talk about those two things because there are two parts to this. Right now, we have a very competitive tax regime where we're extremely competitive with the

States and we want to stay that way so we're going to pay very close attention, as is the federal government, to what the administration may do. I would just say that there's a lot of skepticism about this border adjustment tax reduction trade-off. You know as I said there – I haven't really talked to anybody in the States who thinks that the border adjustment tax is a great idea. There's lots of skepticism about it. So we set that aside and say we do need to remain competitive. We know that our corporate tax regime is part of our competitiveness. It's not all of it by far, the number one thing that people say to me is that we have a great and highly educated workforce and that's why they want to be in Ontario. But obviously the tax regime is important, so we are going to pay very close attention to that and if there are adjustments that need to happen at the federal or the provincial level then we will need to look at that, and we've been clear about that. But on the other side of the equation that you're talking about – so I talked about uncertainty and I think that the uncertainty goes beyond just the President of the United States, although the President of the United States in his election has I would say exacerbated an already uncertain global situation. But a part of the uncertainty is just that we are in a global economy, that we are dealing with technology that we have not dealt with before, we're dealing with a pace of change that seems to be increasing, and we're dealing with uncertainty about what the displacement of people will be. And so for some time we have been working in Ontario to put in place supports and a framework for our society that makes it as fair as it can be you know? And produces as much stability as possible, so whether it's retirement security, which I ran on in my leadership bid and we ran on in the last election – you know we've led the change to an enhanced Canada Pension Plan across the country – that's about people having some security; whether it's free tuition which will start in this fall for kids who might not otherwise go to college or university. So in that vein we are doing some other things. So we you know – in our budget we took a step on pharmacare in terms of OHIP+ which will give free prescription medication to kids from zero till their 25th birthday, and we are working to put in place a basic income pilot and that will start shortly in three communities and in a First Nations community in the province because we've been talking about basic income for 35 years. Hugh Segal has been an advocate for years and so we are going to put a basic income pilot in place and look at whether that's something that we should look at more broadly. And we are going to tackle the precarious – the precarity of work, which is a word that my staff always say, 'Do not say precarity. Nobody knows what you're talking about.' The uncertainty of work, the uncertain workplace, the changing workplace; so you know we had some folks take a look at this two years ago, we asked for some recommendations, and so they've come back to us with a number of things. The discrepancy between full-time and part-time wages, so we're going to even that out. The lack of a reasonable personal emergency leave, you know when someone needs to take days off, so we're going to put in place a minimum ten days and two of those days will be paid. The ability to schedule work, particularly in workplaces like – or not even workplaces like but sectors like home care and personal support workers, it's hard to piece together a schedule that that's rational, and so we're going to work with sectors to make scheduling more predictable. And we are going to raise the minimum wage. Since we've been in office, since we came in under the previous – under Dalton – we raised the minimum wage ten times, that's 70 per cent, it had been frozen at \$6.85. Business has adjusted. What we know right now is that living on \$11.40 an hour if that is your job you've got to have one, two or three jobs, you – it's really hard to make ends meet on that. And we're competing with New York, we're competing with San Francisco, we're competing with Alberta. They're moving to a \$15 minimum wage and so that's where we're going to go, recognizing that we need to work with business. So there's a long winded answer I get that. But I believe that if we can have a fairer society that allows people a decent wage, allows them to look after their families, allows them to have some hope about what the future holds for them, we're going to instill loyalty, businesses will do better and we will work with businesses to see if there's more that we can do to support them, particularly small business.

MODERATOR: I may be showing my bias. It sounds to me like you're describing what a modern aggressive 21st century economy should be like. However, at the same time everything does have a cost to it and if the Americans are going to be cutting their taxes and if they think that burning coal is a good idea and all of the things that Donald Trump seems to have running through his mind at any given time – we've just now got in Ontario back to a balanced budget, do you think that even if you phase in all of these things – you are with the minimum wage and the pharmacare and so forth – we can stay in a balanced budget without raising taxes rather than cutting taxes?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well that is our – I mean that is our plan and that's, you know, if we look at the pharmacare plan we said you know what, we want to expand OHIP. We actually don't have the resources to do the full expansion. We need the federal government to work with us on that. So we're tackling the children and the youth of the province because that will give them a better start. So we're being careful, Don, we know that it's important that we are able to remain in balance and having balanced the budget now for the first time in nearly a decade, it gives us the flexibility to actually do some of these things. I mean these are things that I know we need to have in place, but we weren't in a position as we were climbing out of the deficit to actually do them. So it's really important to me that as we move forward we have our eye on what is fair given that there's an enormous amount of wealth in this province, given that you know the economy is doing well but that not everybody is sharing equally, and that's why this is an important moment to do these things.

MODERATOR: Let me ask you briefly because in Ottawa where the federal government is you know and where you're a partner and you're interested in infrastructure in a particular way in Ontario, which is important, the Finance Minister was here and now he's gone to the Senate Finance Committee to talk about the infrastructure bank, which looks like it could be delayed by the Senate, by the new – they say improved, we'll see if it's improved –

PREMIER WYNNE: Are they talking about carving off part of the bill or – yeah –

MODERATOR: So it would delay it from the budget bill. Do you care whether it's in the budget bill or not? And would you rather that they pass it and got on with getting the money out or – how do you feel about that?

PREMIER WYNNE: Let me see. I'd like to see the money go. You know I'd like to see the money invested. I'm thrilled that we've got a federal partner that wants to invest in infrastructure and wants to work with all of the provinces because that means that we can leverage the dollars that we're investing. I mean we're in the midst of \$190 billion over 13 years. We put another \$30 billion because there's an ongoing demand for projects whether it's in Ottawa or whether it's in Kitchener-Waterloo or whether it's in Thunder Bay quite frankly because there's infrastructure that needs to be built all over the province. So yes I'd love to see – I'm not going to intervene in the machinations of the Senate but I would really like to see us get on with it and make those investments.

MODERATOR: Well Premier, it's always a delight to talk to you. It's a particular delight to talk to you at Canada 2020. Thank you for being here and please come back again.

PREMIER WYNNE: Thank you very much. Thanks everybody.

PREMIER WYNNE'S INTERVIEW WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES (2017.06.13)

Date: June 13, 2017
Length: 34:37 minutes
Speaker(s): Premier Kathleen Wynne;
Max Fisher, The New York Times;
Amanda Taub, The New York Times

Q: So we're working on a story on how the Canadian government is kind of managing the alliance with the United States in the Trump era. We've done a few of these in European countries, kind of looking at how different nations are dealing with it. Canada seems like a very interesting test case because quietly I think without a lot of Americans noticing it it's been kind of astonishingly successful at you know – it's a relative term but like –

PREMIER KATHLEEN WYNNE: It kind of describes our relationship.

Q: Yeah. And I know that you've been quite active in this, and a big part of that has been reaching out to American governors and kind of building ties beneath the federal level but also at the federal level. And I have a lot of questions about kind of strategy, how it's working, but to kind of start in kind of a way of framing this, I was wondering if you could talk a little bit about what changed for you with the election, that you kind of started to think about this differently and of course understanding you would always work with American governors but that the pace of that really accelerated.

PREMIER WYNNE: Yeah. So and as we listen to the political discussion during the election campaign it became quite clear that protectionism – there was a new language around protectionism that we hadn't dealt with for a long time. And so we were we were kind of starting to think about during the election how we were going to manage this and obviously it was going to be different depending on who was the president. So when the new president was elected, we right away knew that we were going to have to up our game in terms of an organized outreach, and so we actually set up – we have set up a committee. We already had a representative in Washington but we have increased her staff and so she has more outreach capacity and we put in place a strategy to do just what you said, which is to reach out to governors to start out with. There are 28 states for whom Ontario is the number one or number two market, 20 we're number one, 8 we're number two. So we're working through those states. I've talked to 13 or met with 13 governors so far. So it's a very concerted effort to do a couple of things, to build on relationships that might already exist. So for example Rick Snyder in Michigan. I already had a very strong working relationship with Rick Snyder. We had worked together, we had been in meetings together and we had a really good working understanding. We already had a memorandum of understanding in place on auto innovation. But you know I talked to the Governor of North Carolina today and I have never met Roy Cooper you know?

Q: Is that number 13 for you? American governors?

PREMIER WYNNE: That's number 13. (Inaudible) number 13. And so you know it ran the gamut from people who I knew quite well people to people who I have never met. And the point of that is that each one of those relationships is important because as we go into the discussions around NAFTA or Buy America provisions or more discussion about a border

adjustment tax comes up I want to be able to talk to these people and have them know who I am and have a bit of a relationship so that we can solve problems together.

Q: So that's actually something that I really wanted to ask about because it seems like there's kind of two parts to this, at least in my mind. One is where you have kind of specific initiatives like the Buy American New York, which you know we were talking with the Prime Minister's Office today and they were like over the moon about this huge success. The other part of it seems to be like your call with the Governor of North Carolina today where it's more about kind of a long-term play. Can you talk about what the like – what are you envisioning that will pay off for in the future?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well I always believe relationships are important you know? I think that if there's a mutual understanding then there's much more possibility when there's a problem that we'll be able to problem solve together. I also wasn't sure quite frankly when I started this how much awareness there was about the interconnection. So I didn't know the degree to which governors for example would know – I didn't assume that governors would know that there were nine million jobs spread among their states that were dependent on Canadian businesses. Like I just wasn't sure, and I think it's – for me it's a bit of an awareness raising exercise. And so for example today when I was speaking to Governor Cooper he immediately raised Linamar, which is a Canadian business in Kitchener-Waterloo, part of the auto sector supply chain, and he knows that's an Ontario company and so we were able to make that connection. I think those are important connections to make. And so it means that when I call him the next time or if he needs to call me to say you know here's an issue that's come up, we know each other a bit.

Q: Is this a strategy that plays towards state level issues or does it also work potentially for federal issues do you think coming from the U.S. side?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well – so my trip to Washington was about meeting Congress people and Senators. And you know for sure in those conversations we were talking about the individual states but we were also talking about national discussions. We were talking about NAFTA and the role that subnationals like provinces and states can play, but also what they thought the trajectory was going to be for NAFTA. And again, I was pleasantly surprised that there is as much alignment as there is, a real understanding that we are dependent on one another. And you know I often raise the image of the example of a car that goes across the border nine times before it's finally ready to be sold or ready – you know it's complete, and everybody gets that, everybody gets that that kind of integration. And to a large degree what I heard was that folks are hoping that this NAFTA negotiation will fix what needs to be fixed but not undermine the things that are working really well. So there are new areas like the environment, like digital economy, that really need to be either inserted or beefed up, but that fundamentally this is a trade agreement that has worked and that has created a strong relationship.

Q: What's amazing is looking at this kind of outreach it almost looks like you can map it and it would be a ring around the executive branch of the federal government and on the one hand like I said that seems to be remarkably successful. And you know when we were in Europe a few months ago everybody was honing in right on the executive branch, the federal government, and sure enough nobody got what they wanted. Are you worried at all about any risks for that strategy?

PREMIER WYNNE: I'm worried about all of it. You know I think there are huge risks and that's just what I have said in every conversation that I've had, like there's a lot of uncertainty and I will say quite candidly our businesses here in Ontario are very nervous. They don't know what's

coming and quite frankly neither do a lot of the businesses that I've talked to because we're not just talking to elected politicians. We're also talking to businesses. I sat beside the CEO of Bechtel – Andy Bechtel? Anyways, CEO, I think it's Andy – when I was at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce dinner in Washington and you know he is building in my district – he is building transit in my district. So it is that direct connection. But I'm anxious about how all that could change if there's a decision that puts up an insurmountable barrier.

Q: What's the plan for in case that comes about?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well you know when we were engaged – because we were very much on the ground in the New York Buy America situation – and we made it clear, we were working with Quebec and then laterally with the with the federal government as well, it was a tripartite effort. But we said you know what? We're going to make all these arguments and we're going to talk to the legislators and we did that. But at the end of the day if there was not going to be an exemption or if this was going to go ahead we had to be prepared to protect our industry. You know nobody wants a trade war. Nobody wants a trade war. But we also have to be clear about what we will and won't stand and our business community expects that of us. They want more than anything for the trade arrangement to be successful and to continue, but they also expect us to draw a line in the sand and say well you know what? Then we have to we have to look at other options.

Q: Well it seems that that – I mean deterrence for lack of a better word – really worked with the kind of discussion of the at least potential for an Ontario bill that would be reciprocal for that. Do you know if there's any discussion of doing that even if it's just a kind of gesture or hint that it's a possibility at the federal level?

PREMIER WYNNE: I don't know that. You'd have to say you'd have to ask them about that. We kind of went down our own path, and because we were so engaged in New York we needed to make it clear what we were and were not considering. But I don't know that that's happened at the federal level.

Q: What were the considerations that you had in taking that step of kind of lining up the reciprocal bill, which again seems to have paid off, but you know was a risk?

PREMIER WYNNE: Yeah it was a risk – there was a risk and the discussions that we had were very much how do we balance the need to be seen as very enthusiastic cooperative collaborators, you know, and at the same time be willing to take a defensive position that could that could upset that discussion? And so the timing was very important, we made it clear that that's not what we were leading with and it is never lead we will leave with. No matter what the situation we will never lead with let's draw the line in the sand before we even have the conversation. We are always going to be willing to have the conversation. We want that because that's in the best interest of the people of the province. But we also will balance as we watch these things unfold, we'll balance the interest of our businesses against the threat of barriers.

Q: So when you say the timing do you mean kind of in the process of informal negotiations with New York State?

PREMIER WYNNE: Yes.

Q: Okay.

PREMIER WYNNE: You know I don't know if you've been part of a negotiation but they have their own rhythm, and so you have to determine at what point does it become clear that if you don't take a stand then the train is going to leave the station.

Q: How did you know when the moment was?

PREMIER WYNNE: You know what, I wasn't at the table. I took advice from my folks who were on the ground and that's why – you know one of the things – one of the first things I did when this came up in New York was I sent my ministers. I sent my Minister of Economic Development and Growth and my Minister of International Trade, sent them to New York because I wanted them to be seen and I wanted them to be on the ground. I know we live in a digital world and I know cyberspace is very important but human interaction is also important and if you show up on someone's doorstep and you make it clear that you know I'm here, I'm from Ontario, and here's my story, it's harder to ignore than e-mail.

Q: What are you kind of looking ahead – I know there are a few measures coming also the state level that you're reacting to but what kind of proactive plans do you have?

PREMIER WYNNE: So we are going to continue our outreach in a very assertive way. You know I'm going to continue my down my list. I'm going to be attending – we just had the Southeastern U.S. and Canadian Premiers meeting here and we had good representation from southeastern states. I am going to attend the National Governors Association and so I'll be meeting with folks some of whom I have already spoken with. But we're going to continue to monitor very closely what's going on in the States because we know that there are things that can pop up state by state. Beyond that we're going to be playing a very active role with the federal government in the NAFTA negotiation. Now we're not at the table, we're subnational, you know we get that, but we are the implementers you know? It's at the provincial and state level that these things have to get implemented and so we'll be feeding in our positions and our perspectives into the federal process.

Q: When you talk to American counterparts I would think that the case for economic self-interest is pretty straightforward and pretty persuasive. You know the job numbers speak for themselves. What other concerns do they kind of voice back at you? What are the other issues that maybe are pushing them in the other direction?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well I think there's a political climate that they have to respond to as well. And I think that the politics of a more protectionist stance are seen to be more positive in some of the states than here. I think that we are – we're used to understanding how important the relationship with the United States is, although don't get me wrong, there are people here who don't like NAFTA and think that you know we should be more protectionist ourselves, but the business community is very, very clear that that's not the case. So I think that there's a different dynamic right now in the United States around America's autonomy. I think here in Ontario and in Canada we are more inclined to see ourselves as integrated into the world. I mean I think even if we look at what we are doing on climate change, for example, you know we – and in Ontario we've really taken a very strong stance in shutting down our coal-fired plants and partnering with California and Quebec on cap-and-trade. So we very much got our chairs turned outward to the world, and from my own perspective that's a bit of a difference given the particular political discussion right now in the States.

Q: So you mentioned that this has been for you in a lot of ways a process of kind of reaching out to make sure that your counterparts in the States know and understand your side of things. Have there been any big surprises for you? Things that you know in this conversation you learned from them that you hadn't been expecting?

PREMIER WYNNE: I think that the overall surprise has been how open my counterparts are to the conversation and in some cases how absolutely willing they are to partner and they want to do stuff together. You know I mean there have been some very, very good connections that we've made like the one with Rick Snyder and partnering in terms of the auto sector and innovation. But I've had conversations with them about education. I've had many conversations about infrastructure and the building of infrastructure which is challenging for all of us. We've developed an alternative finance and procurement process here in Ontario that brings in the private sector in a way that hasn't happened in some states. So we often have those conversations, so the sharing of information. I think I expected that it would be a harder sell, that it would be more – that I'd have to work harder to share information because there would be an assumption that Ontario wasn't all that important but that's not what I have found at all. So that's been a learning for me and it's been very positive.

Q: There's a certain name of a certain American head of state who is not yet in our conversation. Is that also the case in your conversations with governors where it's kind of a thing that is politely talked around, or is it something that kind of looms over things?

PREMIER WYNNE: I think everyone is working very hard to be respectful of the position, that's what I would say.

Q: The position of the governor.

PREMIER WYNNE: The position of the President. I think that it's a tough situation because there are obviously gaps in value systems and a lot of disagreements on substance. And I won't weigh into those things. Those are those are for American leaders to sort out, but the uncertainty of the economic climate is very much the framework within which we're operating. I would say, here from Ontario, if we can look to the south and see uncertainty, we can look to Europe and we see uncertainty. So we just have to take a deep breath and do what we believe is in the best interest of the people of the province, and we're doing very well in Ontario. Our economy is growing. We're seeing a lot of success and we balanced our budget for the first time in nearly a decade. And so we're able to do some things that help people have a fairer shot at an opportunity. I mean, things like free tuition that we've put in place as of this September, and then, because we balanced our budget, we're putting in place free medication for kids from zero to 25 starting in January and we've just moved on increasing the minimum wage, and that will be phased in over two years. We're doing some things that we believe will continue to build on this pretty secure foundation, pretty secure base that we've got, but that economic base is very dependent on having trading partners and having a good working relationship with the states. So it's a fragile situation for all of us.

Q: It especially seems difficult because the uncertainties you mentioned, so much of it turns around the President yanking one or two decisions in ways that are very (inaudible). I mean, I live in Washington; it's very hard for me to understand it. And we, you know, talking to a lot of people in Germany, France, parts of western Europe over the last few months, they've kind of been agonizing over a very different, but maybe somewhat parallel uncertainty over Article 5. Ultimately, did not get what they wanted and really saw that they had lined everything up. Do you worry about what to do if that happens?

PREMIER WYNNE: Sure, and we're trying to prevent that from happening. I guess the other thing that – you asked me about surprises. When I was in Washington, I was encouraged. We met with the Deputy Undersecretary to (inaudible), does that make sense?

Q: I think so.

PREMIER WYNNE: Deputy Undersecretary. I think that's the right title. And she was very sensible and very clear about how the trade deal should be negotiated and so when we met with Stephen Schwarzman who was on that advisory group, we met with a lot of people who really – so these weren't elected officials – but who really understand the relationship and understand how important it is. From our understanding, have a direct line to the President. So my hope is that that uncertainty will be mitigated by the people – because it's a group, right?

Q: Right.

PREMIER WYNNE: That's our hope.

Q: Did you want to ask about populism, or?

Q: So I'm also reporting a story while we're here about why Canada has been so resistant to Trump-style populism. I know that there have been kind of flare ups here and there of that kind of politics but it hasn't gotten traction at the national level. I was curious if you have any thoughts on why that might be. I heard a lot of different explanations, but I'd like to hear yours.

PREMIER WYNNE: Well, I have my own theories, and I'll just tell you that the theory that we're operating on and that is that if populism is at least in part born of people feeling disenfranchised and that they are not being included, that the antidote for that then needs to be inclusion and enfranchisement. I believe that we have, as government since my predecessor, we've worked very, very hard to put in place the conditions to allow everyone to have a good opportunity, a strong opportunity. So right from the putting in place of full-day kindergarten so that kids in Ontario start school in the year that they turn four, so some of them are three. And I've had conversations with some of my counterparts in the states who are looking at getting that kind of universal, early childhood education in place. I think our healthcare system provides a solid base of inclusion because everyone has access to it, and I think that improving that healthcare system, expanding it and providing homecare, for example, as the population ages; we've adjusted to the needs of the community. It's not perfect and I'm not in any way being smug about the systems we have in place but they're pretty strong and so our publicly funded education, our health care system and then, as a government, we've tried to enhance it. So when I talk about the OHIP+, pharmacare's been talked about for a long time in this country. We haven't got a national plan yet, I think we will one day but we're taking a step forward. One of the things I ran on was improved retirement security because our Canada Pension Plan was really outdated and inadequate and we said, 'you know, what if we can't get agreement federally, we're going to move ahead and enhance retirement security here in Ontario' and we started down that road, had a change of federal government and now we actually have it in hand, Canada Pension Plan. So along with investing in infrastructure and making sure that we work with business, we've tried to put those building blocks in place that help people. I don't know if that's the answer but I think it's part of it.

Q: I think you're on to something because something that I've seen; I've reported on this story, the other side of the story, how populism is taking root in Western Europe and Germany,

France, the United States, and a big thing that I hear very often is that, kind of for want of a better word, the white majorities in those countries feel that they're losing status and losing grounds to immigrants. And that has become an opportunity for, kind of entrepreneurial politicians, to take advantage of that and to kind of take advantage of that resentment. And it really struck in Canada that it seems like both sides of that coin are missing. So I haven't seen as much of the kind of wave resentment at the grassroots but also politicians don't seem to be...

PREMIER WYNNE: So it's interesting. I've talked about the social supports and sort of those opportunities that I think people need to see and need to have for themselves and for their kids. The other side of the coin, or the other part of the equation, rather than the other side of the coin – the other part of the equation is that in this country, we pride ourselves to whatever degree we're successful we can debate that, but we pride ourselves on being a country of immigrants and seeing that as our strength. And politicians talk about that all the time that diversity is our strength and we try to live it. We try to we try to – as, for example, with the Syrian refugees. It was part of our DNA that we would say 'no, we're going to open the doors.' As the Premier, when I said we are going to take 10,000 refugees in Ontario, we got a huge, huge outpouring of sympathy and support for doing that. So that's the other part of the equation of inclusiveness. We see ourselves as providing a place for people from around the world, and doing that in a way that, again, gives everyone an equal shot. I can't parse the nuance of European (inaudible) and all that. I do know, I lived in Western Europe for a time when my kids were little. I was there for three years. It's different. There's a different sensibility there, and in a country like this where we, apart from indigenous people, we've all come from somewhere else. All of us have a story about our past but we started somewhere else. We've made a political decision that's going to be part of our identity, that people come from different places and they retain their – and that's, you know, the melting pot versus the mosaic that goes back many, many years. And I think it's part of the difference.

Q: So I'm curious about the role that people such as yourself or other politicians play in kind of maintaining that culture. One thing we definitely saw the United States with Trump was that he was able to come in and disrupt what we thought were political norms and other members of the Republican Party weren't really do much about that. How would you see something like that playing out here?

PREMIER WYNNE: You mean in terms of how we avoid that?

Q: Yes.

PREMIER WYNNE: Well, I think it's a great question. I think that one of the ways that we have worked to avoid it is to make sure that we at least try to have our political bodies represent the population, so that I think it's over 30 per cent of my caucus wasn't born in Canada. So actually recruiting people from different backgrounds to the greatest degree possible, have the elected officials represent the province. Again, it's not perfect. There are still more white Anglomen in our elected by than others, but my cabinet is 40 per cent women, and we have a pretty small multi-ethnic caucus. So that's one of the things I think the politicians can do, is to model that and to talk about it and to make sure that people know that that's intentional and that's important to us and that it makes a difference, and that, when I'm sitting at a table that has someone who was born in Iran, someone who was born in Pakistan, someone who was born in India, and someone who was born in Jamaica, that makes a difference in our decision making process.

Q: That actually touches on something that we're looking at talking to much more local politicians, kind of the riding level is the way that people build multi-ethnic coalitions and

reaching out to different immigrant groups, many of which are first or second generation. I imagine that challenge must be much harder at the provincial level. I mean, how do you go about building a multi-ethnic coalition of voters that they can diverse?

PREMIER WYNNE: At the provincial level, I mean, I'm pretty connected to communities. I have my own district. Last night, I was out of GTA wide iftar for Ramadan, and so there were people from my own riding, there were people from ridings all over the GTA. I had been fasting all day, and so I was there to break my fast with the community. And so

Q: (Inaudible).

Q: I have to say, it never crossed my mind to do that.

PREMIER WYNNE: Well, the community asked me if I would like to.

Q: Interesting.

PREMIER WYNNE: There's always a bit of a debate about, 'who am I to do this?' but if it's coming from the community, then –

Q: Who in the community makes that request?

PREMIER WYNNE: There were a couple of leaders in the community who were just folks. One guy who runs a whole bunch of Lebanese restaurants, and he's very much a strong and successful entrepreneur in the community and he actually was one of the sponsors of the iftar last night and last year, and he had asked me if I would do that.

Q: Something that's come up a bunch of times in our interviews is that it's not just that the coalitions are multi-ethnic, but that there are people within communities who can bring an ethnic constituency to the table. I wonder if there's something particular to Canada about that. That's also something that other countries have really struggled with.

Q: Basically it doesn't work anywhere.

Q: Yeah. The United States thinks of itself as a melting pot, but we're really struggled to kind of have integrated politics (inaudible).

PREMIER WYNNE: Again, I do think it goes back to having a policy that says we are a multicultural country, and that means we're going to celebrate each other's cultures. We're not shutting them down. You come here and you bring who you are and it means that we have a really challenging conversation. For example, if we bring in a health and physical education curriculum that has a sex education component to it that is challenging to some communities then we're going to have a really robust discussion about that, but we'll get through it. That's always what I maintain we do, is we find a way to forge a new reality. I'll give you an example. I have a very large Muslim population in my riding, and Islamophobia is a huge issue right now, and has been for some time. For many years, there have been practices in the community, and it just came up again this year in the Peel District School Board which is part of the GTA; the prayer. So, kids who want to pray on Fridays, instead of leaving and going to the mosque, and then not coming back, that there is space given that is non-teaching space to pray during the day, and then they pray and then they go back to their classroom. So we've had a policy of religious accommodation in this province for decades. That's part of religious accommodation.

But we have a flare ups of these discussions when there a broader societal issue, but we get through it. And we believe that it's important to find a way to accommodate each other because we'd rather have everybody together than have everybody separate.

Q: What's amazing is (inaudible) white communities on that which is typically the source of backlash.

PREMIER WYNNE: Yeah, but the majority of people, as I've said, they see themselves in Ontario as being open, and not just tolerant, but really accepting and wanting to bring people in. I mean that's part of how we define ourselves and we don't always live up to that, but that is... I think you could talk to many, many Canadians on the street and they would say, 'oh yeah, we live in a diverse city and diverse province and we're better for it.'

Q: Right. Yeah. Yeah.

Q: Well I think we've taken up an awful lot of your time, a little more than we were allotted.

PREMIER WYNNE: Oh, you're very welcome. It's an honour to talk to you.

PREMIER WYNNE'S INTERVIEW WITH THE TORONTO STAR (2017.06.13)

Date: June 13, 2017
Length: 34:03 minutes
Speaker(s): Premier Kathleen Wynne;
Martin Regg Cohn, The Toronto Star;
Robert Benzie, The Toronto Star

Q: Premier, we know that you wanted to talk about trade because you spent a lot of time in Washington last week. Obviously with Comey, some of the stuff maybe didn't get as much coverage here as it might have. And I was speaking with the mayors of Dallas and Fort Worth yesterday. It's interesting talking to them, one a Republican, one a Democrat, but both saying the same thing on NAFTA and on trade, and they're concerned with that law that is now the law as of (inaudible). What do you want to do, or what does Ontario want to do, to counter that? Are you going to retaliate or do you want to continue to (inaudible)?

PREMIER KATHLEEN WYNNE: So I actually had that conversation with the mayors yesterday, and we already knew that between now and fall there's an opportunity to work with the Governor's Office and with the legislators in Texas to make our case. And it's exactly the case that the mayors put to yesterday, that we have an integrated economy. We talked about you know the 9 million jobs in the United States that depend on Canadian companies. And they're very keen, they were very excited to be here, to meet with Ontario companies. They were thrilled, so. And they invited us down and they want this relationship to be stronger. So we're going to work to see if (inaudible), finding flexibility within that law. The other thing was we've been very vigilant as you know, paying attention to what's going on in the States. But this one popped up right at the last minute, and I said to the mayors 'You know it kind of took us by surprise,' and they said 'It took us by surprise too.' They hadn't expected it, and so we're going to continue to work with them.

Q: So you're going to be at the National Governors Association in Rhode Island in a couple of – I'd say a month and a half, a little more than a month away – is that a time you're hoping that you can talk to Governor Abbott and say look, maybe is there a way to wiggle out of this? Because I think they were aiming at Chinese steel or Turkish steel and the unintended consequences of course –

PREMIER WYNNE: Well it's this collateral damage issue right? And I raised that a number of times in my meetings with the Congressman and the Senators in the States that whatever the target of these policies really is, we don't want to find ourselves as collateral damage and the trade relationship is too important for that. So you know on steel, I think we need a North American steel strategy, quite frankly. So yes, I'm going to the National Governors Association meeting. I will be meeting with as many governors as I can, and I think there's a lot of interest in the governor to premier conversation right now.

Q: So you've done everything right on this in terms of trying to get in front of it, dealing attentively with the New York problem. We dodged that bullet, but we had not dodged this bullet. So in New York you made a point of being ready to retaliate, or mirror or reciprocate let's call it, retaliate is too strong, so reciprocate. So what do you do with Texas? If you've done everything

right but the outcomes are still wrong and consequences are still consequences for Ontario. There's almost a risk of domino effect for other states, that's what we're worried about.

PREMIER WYNNE: And that's what we're paying attention to, where this is happening, where it might pop up in other states. But as with New York, I want us to do everything we can to find the flexibility, find the exceptions or the exemptions, before we start talking about other options and anything like a retaliatory stance.

Q: But they've already made a move.

PREMIER WYNNE: But they have – there's still time for us to work with them, because again, because it came up so quickly, we didn't have time, the mayors didn't have time. I mean the mayors are as concerned about this as we are. They know there are jobs in their communities that are dependent on our trade relationship. So we actually have allies in this conversation with the governor.

Q: So if that message doesn't get through, what (inaudible)?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well then we have to look at all options, as we said with New York, and I'm not going to presuppose what those would be but – because each one of these things is slightly different you know? One might be about procurement, one might be about a particular sector, and so we have to determine exactly what that means. I mean Alberta is – has a very close relationship with Texas as well. And it's interesting, we were working with Quebec in New York, but we were working with Alberta in Texas. So that's going to change too, who our partners are across the States.

Q: Is it easier sense then that diplomacy could still work rather than you know going guns ablazing? I mean politically it would be (inaudible) for you say, draw the line in the sand and say, we're going to close our doors too to Texas businesses if –

PREMIER WYNNE: The balance for me is finding a way to be very clear publically that we're doing two things at once. We are standing up for Ontario businesses and we're doing everything in our power to protect them and make sure that their interests are at the front of whatever we do, which is true. And at the same time, argue that the integrated economies are important. So there's no point in one breath saying that the integrated economies of Canada and the United States, Ontario and the United States, and then attacking our partner you know? I mean I want to build on the reality that people in the United States understand this. The leaders I've talked to, the people who are making decisions in Washington and in the states I've talked to, understand how integrated we are. So we need to support each other in finding a way through this.

Q: Now against this backdrop of – you have Democrats and Republicans saying to us and to you about the need to keep – to preserve NAFTA, to keep trade flowing, but you have a president who is yes, he's historically unpopular but he was just elected, and you're going to be stuck with him, we're all going to be stuck with him.

PREMIER WYNNE: So renegotiating NAFTA is going to happen, one way or another. It's going to happen. And so our objective is make sure that we put forward the things that are going to help and strengthen the agreement. And you know at this point nobody is saying that NAFTA is going to be blown up. That came out the gate and was squelched pretty quickly, and that's a good thing. So you know – it was interesting in the conversations that I had with the Congress

people and the Congressman and the Senators, we talked a lot about what's not in NAFTA because it was negotiated more than 20 years ago and so all of the digital work and how do we make sure that on the environment we've got the right provisions? So there are areas where we can find common ground and we can change NAFTA as partners without damaging the relationship, and in fact enhance the relationship.

Q: Is there almost a sense that you have – I don't want to say ignore the national government there, but whether it's climate change, whether it's trade, the governors and the mayors and here premiers, are out kind of working toward common purpose while you have a national government, or at least the head of a national government saying things that you know privately (inaudible) concerned about?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well in this room we've talked before the importance of sub-nationals right? So states, provinces, municipalities have a hugely important role to play. You know before we had a federal government in this country that was interested in engaging in climate change, we were already down the road in terms of partnering with the Quebec market and the California cap and trade market. So we have already established as a province that there is an enormous amount we can do in partnership with other states and provinces.

Q: (Inaudible) jump in on the environment, and I've noticed that we had a shout out in the New York Times, I think, when you were there last Wednesday. They wrote an editorial and they talk about what sub-nationals can do. (Inaudible) meeting the President of (inaudible) the other day.

PREMIER WYNNE: That's right.

Q: So just talking about the environment, (inaudible), is that an issue? It's funny to talk about the environment in policy circles. It's a tough issue at a (inaudible) political level –

PREMIER WYNNE: Except with kids. It's a really easy issue with kids. I was in grade five kids this morning I said, "how many how many of you think we should be fighting pollution climate change?" Every hand.

Q: And already there was a child in the White House right now that doesn't (inaudible) this. So – and my children as well are engaged in this.

PREMIER WYNNE: Stephen Hawking says we don't have a hundred years.

Q: So let's run with that. Is this an issue that you can, or will campaign on in Ontario? Or is it an issue though that you can make headway or is it an issue that Patrick Brown can use to his advantage in the next campaign? How is that issue going to play out in Ontario?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well I can only tell you what we are going to be talking about. We are going to be talking about the necessity of moving forward to protect the environment, to protect against climate change, and we'll be pointing to things like the announcement this morning where we're investing \$50 million in the Toronto District School Board to make renovations that are going to reduce GHG emissions and we'll be talking about the investments in technology and innovation that are going to help businesses to reduce greenhouse gas emissions so that we can clean up the air. That's how we're going to talk about it because that's how people will experience the cap-and-trade market. The cap-and-trade market is a bit of a complicated and an abstract idea for most of us, but what it does is it forces a reduction of pollution in the air and it enables the development of innovative technologies and that's what we need.

Q: (Inaudible) Patrick Brown will be able to pay it a different way that it's a cash grab.

PREMIER WYNNE: Well, you know what, you'll have to talk to him. He may try to do that but we have a serious plan to reduce the impacts of climate change. And that is the imperative that's driving (inaudible) and we're going to continue on that path. If he wants to play politics with it and try to use it as a wedge issue, that's his business. I think it's irresponsible. I think we should all be on the same page that fighting climate change is actually something that is not hard. I mean, I know there are lots of partisan issues. I don't happen to think that this one is and that we should all be working together I was on this.

Q: On the current President of the United States, you were very successful in 2014 running against Stephen Harper even though his name wasn't on the ballot in Ontario at that time. The strategy of having a (inaudible) that you can "run against," I mean, Donald Trump is a household name in Ontario. He is loathed, I think, by most Ontarians. Is he a useful foil to you politically? I know you disagree with him on every issue personally and politically, but is he also a useful foil to you in that way? Not that Patrick Brown is the second coming of Donald Trump, but you can say 'here's what change can look like, folks. Change for the sake of change.'

PREMIER WYNNE: Well, I think the fact is, we're operating in a political environment and a cultural environment that – and an economic environment that is made more uncertain by the current President of the United States. That's a reality. So what you see us doing over the last couple of years is trying to address the uncertainty of the economy. And I would say that that's going to be very much a part of the election campaign. It's going to be 2018. People don't know what their kids' jobs are going to be. They don't know if they're going to have a job, they don't know what the future holds for them. We just talked about the environment, you know, we have to keep making the changes that we're making. We have to keep working on that because there is so much uncertainty about what the future holds. So to the degree that the political situation in the United States exacerbates that uncertainty, then yeah, we're going to be running to try to mitigate that uncertainty. We're trying to put the supports in place that people need to feel good about their lives right now and have a (inaudible) future.

Q: Take me back a little bit to the morning after Trump won the election. What was your gut reaction as a political leader, as a Premier? What did you say to your staff in terms of suggesting to them about how you as a party and as a government could take note, could analyze what happened with Trump? It's easy to poke fun at Trump and we all do that too much, but does it have a different and deeper meaning to you in south western Ontario, parts of rural Ontario –

PREMIER WYNNE: I think that the theme that ran through all of those conversations – because people were... I mean, I'm not going to pretend that I was shocked. I was, I was very surprised.

Q: But beyond that, I mean, what did you make of it?

PREMIER WYNNE: So after that, it was the deep realization that the anger that was being expressed during the campaign by people who felt that decisions were being made about their lives by other people who knew nothing about their lives, that that was something that we all had to pay attention to and to the degree that we were already paying attention to it, we had to do a better job. That kind of anger could be very, very destructive.

Q: What's the lesson for all politicians from the Trump surprise?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well, I think the lesson for all politicians right now is that we're in uncharted waters. You know, that we, in terms of western liberal democracy, I think that we have a lot of challenges and we have to understand that some of the hope that we as a society felt in that post-war period through the 80s that some of that has dissipated and we have to change our course. We have to understand what the role of government is. I'm of the opinion - I will say that that opinion has been confirmed, as I talk to colleagues in the United States and I look at the challenges of making investments in some of the states, and I look at what we're doing here in Ontario, and I see how well we're doing - I'm one who believes that government has if not a more important role to play right now, than 30 years ago.

Q: But to get there, you first need to persuade people that you're on their side. So did you reach out to aides? Did you... what did you advise them? Like, don't make (inaudible) but take stop of this kind of a Trump transition?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well, we did have those conversations that this is something we have to take very, very seriously. This is not an isolated incident because there already were churning in Europe. There were already things happening in other parts of the world that would lead us to say, what is going on here that people (inaudible) and are we doing enough to inject that certainty in people's lives when they feel so uncertain.

Q: So the change train that people talk about and that everyone thinks about in this province, you've seen it in British Columbia. We've seen unexpected results in (inaudible) in the UK as well, Brexit and so on. But how do you deal with the change train? It's an understandable sentiment in 15 years. (inaudible) tell people (inaudible). A lot of people will say (inaudible) power is what is best (inaudible).

PREMIER WYNNE: Yeah. I mean, all I can do is point to what we've done, point to our record and people will assess whether the things we've done, whether it's a child who has got free tuition or whether it's a kid who has to take medication and gets that free medication starting in January, or whether it is someone who, as of January 1st, will be earning \$14 an hour instead of \$11.40 an hour. They'll have to look at whether the things that we are doing meet the test for themselves. And then they'll look at our platform, which isn't developed yet, but they will look at our platform and say, 'you know what, this is a continuation of what she has been doing,' and then they'll make a decision and compare me to the alternative. I can't control that comparison. All I can do is put forward what I've done and what we intend to do.

Q: How do you cast the alternative vote for people?

PREMIER WYNNE: Right now? Well, you know, I think I'm going to leave that because we're going to have a campaign. We'll have lots of time to talk about that. I think what's important for me is that I'm clear about what I stand for, which I always have been, and that I continue to (inaudible).

Q: Your opponent has TV ads that are running right now - I saw them last night during the basketball game, and I guess they were running during the hockey playoffs, so they are not cheap ads of him marching in the Pride parade and saying, 'it doesn't matter who you love,' and him going to temples of different faiths. Is it going to be hard for you guys to paint him as a caricature of the social conservatives that he apparently was when he was voting that way in Ottawa a few years back?

PREMIER WYNNE: I don't know who is or what he is. I don't know what he stands for.

Q: (Inaudible)

PREMIER WYNNE: You know, the people of Ontario are going to have to ask him those questions. I mean, it's quite unclear what he believes in or what he stands for.

Q: And do you think that's the – to Martin's point – the change train starts (inaudible) Dalton McGuinty was elected, "choose change," a great slogan. I don't know if Brown would actually use the same one, I don't know.

PREMIER WYNNE: But the thing was that in 2003, the change was to a very clear set of priorities. Education was our number one priority. We were very clear about investing in healthcare. We had some very principles that we were operating on, that we believed that public service was important. We believe that public institutions were important. So I think that's a different comparison. And I think that part of this discussion around change is: change to what and from what? And that's why all I can do is make it clear what we've done and then talk about how we're going to build on it because whatever our platform looks like, it's going to build on the foundation that we've established. So, for example, child care spaces; we'll be in the midst of implementing 100,000 child care spaces. We'll be in the midst of implementing a minimum wage change. So those are, those are long-term plans that we will continue to build on.

Q: You clearly still have the (inaudible)

[Part Two of Interview]

Q: (Inaudible) what I was going to ask you is, regardless of whether you win or lose, do you think next year is your last kind of election or would you like to, do you have...?

PREMIER WYNNE: I am focused on June 2018 and we'll have that conversation after I win the next election, if I win the next election.

Q: So it's not, I mean, with your predecessor, I remember having discussions with him before the 2011 campaign which turned out to be his final one, and he didn't seem to have the same passion for the job at that point in that summer before that election as you still do. I don't know if he had already been for a while.

PREMIER WYNNE: You know I don't know exactly what was going on for him at that moment, but what I do know is that we've still got a lot to do and I'm eager to get back.

Q: Patrick Brown has said (inaudible) but he's on his last campaign (inaudible) I think he told you when he was here, he was able to say 'you know what? Because I am I'm running to do good things, I don't have to worry about getting re-elected.'

PREMIER WYNNE: Yes. Yes. No, that's true.

Q: So we'll have a different conversation in 2019 is what you're saying.

PREMIER WYNNE: We will.

Q: (Inaudible) so speaking of getting re-elected one of the interesting things that still comes up a lot in the (inaudible) people say, 'what do you think of Kathleen Wynne, what's she like? What do you think?' And what's kind of eerie is that when people say, and its total random and unscientific – usually Toronto Liberal friendly environment is exactly what the Gandalf polling would have shown 18 months or a year ago and which was the preamble to your speech at the Liberal convention (inaudible) people don't think I'm the person that they thought I was. It's just, it's eerie and they'll say, the fact that the sounding is reflected, not that they think that, but that it correlates to what Pearly's findings were and she's just a politician like any other politician, which I don't think is a slur, but that's the way people think and say, and they thought that Kathleen Wynne was different. So it seems to me that over the last few months that you've been trying very hard to show people that you feel their pain and you call people with their hydro bills and you've done all those things. But it's almost as if there's a paradox, in order to persuade people that you're not just another politician, you've got to act like another politician and say no to road tolls and say no to (inaudible) rent controls like that, and bring in whatever people, whatever will click and resonate and borrow the House to lower hydro bills. How do you deal with that?

PREMIER WYNNE: You know, so many of those things that you just listed are things that have been part of what I believed in for years. I mean, rent control, you know, in 2003 I was working within the party to get a platform to get a policy that would address the rent control issues in Thorncliffe Park and Flemingdon, in my own riding. So I think what resonates with me with what you're saying is that we need to work harder. I need to work harder to tell people what it is I do when I'm not being quoted in the newspaper, you know, in my day to day because I've always phoned people. I go to my constituency office every few weeks and I take meetings in my constituency office, which when I first came into this office people said, 'oh, you don't need to do that anymore' and I said "no." I think I told you this story. Jean Chretien came and we had a visit in the first two months that I was here, and he went back every six or eight weeks to his constituency office and I said to my staff 'well, if Jean Chretien can do it, than I can do it.' So it has always been critical to me that I stay in touch with people and that I listen to them. It pains me that there are people who don't know that. And so, if anything, we've tried to just make it clearer that that is what goes on in this office. That is what I do, but I can't answer or explain why people think I'm different than what they thought I was because I don't know exactly what they thought I was. (Inaudible) I never use this, but I think there is a question, was there something that was expected of a female, a woman as the Premier, that wasn't expected of men? I don't know the answer to that.

Q: Apparently that's what the research shows.

PREMIER WYNNE: And I don't know what that is, but I think it's a question that we need to ask ourselves because when we talk about the day after the election in the United States, was there something going on there that had to do with gender? It's not the whole story. I would never suggest it's the whole story and I would never use it as an excuse, ever, but I do think it's an interesting question. And it's an interesting question for young girls. I mean, everywhere I go – I was just at a school this morning and people want their daughters to have their picture with me, and a woman said this morning, 'you see here's a woman,' it was Mitzi and I standing there, 'here are two women. They're in important roles. That means you can do it.' She said that to her daughter so we need to understand that dynamic.

Q: And there's a different gender thing out there that's a hostile gender thing, I'm talking about people who are Liberal friendly and Wynne friendly and who feel –

PREMIER WYNNE: But even there, Martin, was there something going on in their perception of a woman and how she would behave? I mean, you know, anyway, this is –

Q: (Inaudible) just briefly then, more consensual, was one of the things that I've heard from the research, and –

PREMIER WYNNE: And not as competitive.

Q: Yes. You're really competitive, and that's how you win, you have to be competitive.

PREMIER WYNNE: Yeah, I've been running in races my whole life. I started competing in track when I was twelve. I love crossing the finish line first. It is a great feeling; the ribbon on your jersey is a great feeling. But I also am a great team-player, and I know that in our Cabinet and in our caucus people get their fair hearing. People have the opportunity to contribute to decisions and that is extremely important to me. So I think those things can co-exist, being a collaborative decision maker, which often happens behind closed doors. Those are not often the public impressions or perceptions and the competitive one is, and that's just, that's a reality in political life.

Q: (Inaudible) office hours in the last few months? Tell me about that.

PREMIER WYNNE: I've been holding office hours for the last four or five months.

Q: And that's for caucus to come, how does that work?

PREMIER WYNNE: It's great. I mean it works in two ways –

Q: What's the deal? (Inaudible).

PREMIER WYNNE: They will just drop in, or I will go to the House. Sometimes – you guys are never in the House that time of day, but I will often go in and just hang out with people because they need to do house duty and it's too hard. That wasn't a crack, (inaudible) there either. But, it's just to give folks a time, and they know if I go and sit in the House they just come in and sit beside me.

Q: So, is that a thing, after caucus they you can come in and see you or how does that –

PREMIER WYNNE: Yes, so it's an hour or two after caucus, whatever we can work out. Sometimes they make an appointment but not always, and we chose the caucus day because everybody is around.

Q: I say, just as a neutral observer that you have half your caucus then – your predecessor did in the sense that I think a lot of cabinet ministers and backbenchers felt that their views weren't heard and with the Premier and the Premier's staff would just make edicts (inaudible). I talked to minister who said that you would go to Cabinet, and you may have been one of them, probably you were when they did the reversal on sex-ed, his own reversal on sex-ed. Decisions are made, and the minister is sitting there... Are you cognizant of that? Have you gone through that as a minister?

PREMIER WYNNE: I had just stopped being Minister when –

Q: (Inaudible) Fiona had just a gap, but you would have been sitting at that table thinking 'What's this?' Did you stay for her speech at the Jim Bradley? (inaudible) Crack at that (inaudible) you said something about –

PREMIER WYNNE: That was a hard day. That was a hard day for me. I was in tears when he –

Q: Yeah, because you went from backbench to Education Minister and that was –

PREMIER WYNNE: And I loved it, it was my dream job and I couldn't imagine being anywhere else. But I did thank him, I meant it. It was a really good move. It was hard.

UNIDENTIFIED: Sorry, I need to wrap.

Q: I have to ask you a quick question for a story that Rob Ferguson is working on. The doctor's notes the change that you guys made. Is that one of the little things you can do to make peoples' lives a little bit easier, that government can do? Was their thinking like that? (Inaudible).

PREMIER WYNNE: Yeah, and I think for a long time, there had been agitation about how ineffective that process was and for doctors, a huge irritant. In fact, I think I can even remember my dad talking about what an irritant it was and why couldn't employers just believe their employees.

Q: And I think this is part of the – a lot of what you've been talking about ,whether it's rent control or minimum wage increase, pharmacare, it's about the day to day; something that you see in your life that the government is actually doing something. Is that –

PREMIER WYNNE: That actually touches people every single day. And you know, some of the things, like pharmacare, we couldn't do those things until the budget was balanced and we had the room to do it. So that has given us some flexibility to really focus on, how do we even things out, how do we make things fairer given the economy is doing well.

Q: Did Hoskins come in during office hours after caucus to talk about pharmacare with you? Does that ring a bell? Do you remember that, when he came in –

PREMIER WYNNE: I do.

Q: How did that conversation click?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well he just made the case. He made the case for young people. pharmacare was obviously something, as you know, he's been leading this charge across the country and he feels very passionately about it and he's positioned perfectly to –

Q: And he walked in and said 'I've got to grab you on this, we have to move?'

PREMIER WYNNE: He asked for some time. We talked about it. It was something that had been floating around, but he and I had not had a conversation about it. And that was very compelling to me.

Q: Is it, also as you're campaigning for June next year – this time next year (inaudible), are you hoping to be able to say 'if you don't vote for us, the Tories say they are in favour of pharmacare

but they never did it when they were in government and they'll take it away, or make cuts as they move towards it.' Is that something you will be reminding voters that they could lose this?

PREMIER WYNNE: You know, Rob, I think that will be part of the subscript, obviously, because we're different. We are different parties, we're different people, and we have different sensibilities and different values as far as I can tell. So that's obviously going to have to be part of the discussion. But my campaign is going to be based on what we've done and what we're going to build going forward.

UNIDENTIFIED: Thanks guys.

Q: Thank you very much.

PREMIER WYNNE: Thank you.

*PREMIER WYNNE'S REMARKS AND AVAIL WITH MAYOR CROMBIE AT QUEEN'S PARK
(2017.06.12)*

Date: June 12, 2017
Length: 24:57 minutes
Speaker(s): Premier Kathleen Wynne; Bonnie Crombie, Mayor of Mississauga

Remarks

PREMIER KATHLEEN WYNNE: Good morning everyone. Great to see you all here and thanks – thanks for being here, and I want to just thank Mayor Crombie, thank you very much for coming. We've had another opportunity to talk about this important relationship between the province and Mississauga. And it is always my contention that having – having conversations with municipalities about their concerns – and I just have to say that – that Mayor Crombie has – has been a great partner and our ongoing dialogue is very, very productive. So thank you very much Bonnie for being here.

You know, Mississauga is growing and it's such a dynamic community and needs investment and support. So this morning we talked about transit. We talked about – we talked about current projects but we also talked about the – the realities of planning that needs to happen now as we move forward. Mayor Crombie was very excited about the Lakeview project that – that they are going to be working on and – and the needs around those kinds of future – future developments. And we also talked about housing, and Mississauga has developed a very comprehensive housing strategy of their own, much of which aligns with what we are doing provincially to make sure that there is – there is in place enough incentive to have affordable housing built, that there's housing stock that is both for homeowners and also rental stock. And so we had a good conversation about that. We talked about OMB reform, which – the changes that we're making to the OMB align with much of what Mayor Crombie and her council have been have been looking for. And then we talked about infrastructure funding and in general, not just the – not just transit but the reality that now we've got a federal government, a provincial government, and municipalities who have developed asset management plans and now we need to make sure that there's alignment on the funding and the – the project investments. And so – so that was – that was very helpful. And finally Mayor Crombie will be attending the – the opioid summit, the forum this afternoon. Minister Hoskins will be announcing some – some measures. We all agree that there's more that we can do and that we can do that working together. It's very important to me that we hear from the municipalities and we understand exactly what they are dealing with on the ground and so – and so that's what the conversation this afternoon among the mayors will be about.

So we also talked about the exciting announcement that – we actually led with this, about the Trillium – Trillium Health Partners redevelopment and – and I just want to again say the great work that has been done by that organization but also by the municipality to support the community, to support the Trillium Health Partners redevelopment. And we're moving ahead with – with major expansions at Mississauga hospital and Queensway Health Centre is part of that. We're also improving roads and transit as – as we talked about. And we're investing in local talent and the – the new campus that we're building at Sheridan College is an important part of not just the – not just the investment in talent and skills in – in the community, but also in the economic development of the community. It is very critical to me – I will just reiterate – it's

critical to me that all communities in Ontario have the opportunity to thrive, and that means making sure that no matter where people live in the province they can count on having a partner in their municipal government and their – and their provincial government working together. And so that's exactly why this year's budget provides more than four billion dollars in ongoing support to municipal partners to help them grow and meet their local priorities. That's a provincial – that's a provincial commitment. We're also doubling the gas tax funding for local transit by 2021-22 and helping to improve and expand municipal transit services, and that's one of the things that the mayor and I talked about this morning. As a province we're making investments in – in provincial transit projects. But we are also investing in local transit projects. We are also making sure that that connectivity can happen between what – what's being built in the municipality and what is being built in the inter-community transit. So we'll continue to work with Mississauga and municipalities across the province.

[Speaking French] Our economy is strong and we are taking important measures to increase fairness for the people of Mississauga and for everyone in the province.

We're in a position of strength in Ontario. When I was in Washington last week I talked about of course the integration between the economies of states and the economy of Ontario, that Canada-U.S. integration. But what – what we know in Ontario is that we are doing very well. Our economic growth is outstripping that of Canada; it's outstripping that of the United States and G-7 countries, and so we're in a very strong position to be a partner with our municipalities and to make sure that – that the investments that are needed continue to flow, and so we will – we'll continue to invest in child care spaces, 100,000 childcare spaces which will benefit people who live in Mississauga and people who live in municipalities across the province. We're introducing OHIP+ which again will help families in Mississauga to make ends meet once prescription medication is free for kids from 0 to 25 when they, when – in January 1st 2018. And we are, we're going to work with municipalities to make sure that as we – as we make the changes in the workplace that we – that we continue to support businesses and to ensure that they thrive. So I am very grateful to Mayor Crombie for making the time to come in and talk with me and I look forward to our ongoing dialogue, and I'll turn it over to Mayor Crombie to make a few remarks.

MISSISSAUGA MAYOR BONNIE CROMBIE: Good morning, and first let me thank Premier Wynne for meeting with me once again to discuss our city-building priorities in Mississauga which align very nicely with hers and our great province. Let me also congratulate her for the work she has done to listen and to respond to the mayors across the GTA. She meets with us regularly and we all appreciate it. Let me also congratulate you Madam Premier on fasting today ahead of your Iftar dinner. I know that's very important to the community. So yes, we had a very productive meeting largely around the issues that she has mentioned, transit, infrastructure, housing, as well as a host of other issues in Mississauga, and – and our council has a very strong working relationship with the Premier and this government and if – that has resulted in a number of very key investments for us. So let me update you on how this partnership is delivering results for Ontario's third-largest city. Of course Mississauga and Metrolinx are moving ahead with the construction of our Hurontario light-rail transit. The Hurontario LRT is a 20-kilometre, 22-stop regionally-integrated transit project. It's a \$1.4-billion investment funded 100 per cent by the province. And over the next two decades the Region of Peel will have to accommodate growth, growth to the extent of 300,000 people and 150,000 jobs. Nearly a quarter of this growth is expected to live in the area immediately surrounding that Hurontario corridor. So we're planning new and important developments consistent with the planning and growth requirements that have been decided in the collaboration between the mayors and the

province. But these developments wouldn't be possible without full funding of the LRT, let me make that very clear.

We're also very encouraged that the province is doubling the gas tax funding to the municipalities. Mississauga can now expect approximately \$32 million in gas tax funding by 2022. Council and staff will budget for this increased funding to break gridlock and build transit and move people – people forward in our economy. In Mississauga we know that transit policy is also economic development policy as is investing in infrastructure, which is why the Premier and I discussed her government's commitment and the federal government's newly announced \$81-billion phase two infrastructure spending and how to ensure that it's delivered to Mississauga and to Ontario municipalities where it is needed the most. The Premier and I also discussed how Mississauga is doing our part to give people more options for affordable housing. We have a new action plan called Making Room for the Middle. It's a middle-class, middle – excuse me, a housing strategy for Mississauga for middle-income earners. We also discussed the need for increased investments in our subsidized housing to really tackle the Region of Peel's waitlist of over twelve thousand – twelve-and-a-half thousand people and it's a seven-year wait. The housing is the solution to many of our problems including combating poverty and generating jobs and employment. Finally I was very pleased by the announcement made last week by Minister Sousa on the sale of 177 acres of prime waterfront land in Mississauga's Lakeview neighborhood. Sixty-seven of those acres have been allocated to the city of Mississauga as part of our new plan mixed-use waterfront community. It's unprecedented quite frankly in North America to have 177 waterfront acres available for development. And Lakeview's promising new future has always been a priority in our recent budget – pre-budget submissions, so it tells you they're listening. The province is listening. This announcement is further proof that Mississauga is on – on top of the province's government – the provincial government's agenda. And we will continue to work with the Premier and her government to ensure Mississauga's economic prosperity. Thank you very much and we're happy to take your questions.

Avail

Q: Premier, LCBO workers will be -- could be on strike two weeks today and the sticking point in those negotiations with OPSEU, ironically enough, is something that could be illegal after your government passes its labour reforms. The union is concerned that workers are -- they spent years and years on contracts, they don't have great transition to full time employment as the labour reforms will usher in and I'm just wondering if you as their employer -- as the owner -- the whole owner of the LCBO would like this Crown agency to set an example for other companies that are going to be in negotiations in the months ahead after your labour reforms. Yes it's not illegal yet but it's going to be illegal after the Fall.

PREMIER WYNNE: So let me separate my comments because I'm not going to wade into the negotiation as I know you wouldn't want me to. That needs to happen at the table and so they need to have that discussion. But in principle, do I think that it's a good idea for government to set an example in terms of good labour practice? Absolutely. Absolutely. So -- but that you know, I do not know the trade-offs and the intricacies of what's going on at that table and so I'm really not going to wade into that but I think it does make sense that as we look across government to make sure that we have the best labour practices possible. And you know that -- I mean that's consistent for example with the gender wage gap issues and making sure that we have women on boards and making sure we have 40 per cent of women in -- on our agency and

commissions board. So we are absolutely working to be a model and we'll have to let current negotiations unravel as they do.

Q: But isn't there a political price to be paid if there's a strike on Canada -- around Canada Day weekend? You know, that people are going to say well, this is a 100 per cent government-owned entity. Kathleen Wynne is the head of the government. Maybe we should be blaming her for the fact that we can't get vodka and scotch for our Canada 150 celebrations.

PREMIER WYNNE: I'm sure there will be those who will try to do that; blame me but again there's always more than one issue on the table at a given time. And so there may be one issue that is being lifted up right now in the public discussion but there's as I say, there's always more than one thing happening at a time. We need to let that unfold and with luck we will keep our fingers crossed that that they reach an agreement soon.

Q: Premier speaking of OPSEU, they say the government has offered the OPS members a contract extension just like the teachers. Why is that?

PREMIER WYNNE: So my understanding is that there is a tentative agreement; that they were in a ratification process right now with OPSEU. I'm glad that we've been able to get to that point and I think we need to let the OPSEU membership now look at that agreement and make a determination.

Q: Do you (inaudible) what's behind the offer? You know is it sort of, like the teachers? Are you hoping to avoid more contentious bargaining before the election?

PREMIER WYNNE: You know I understand that that is -- that's the frame that you might want to put on this. My position has always been since I've elective politics has been that good working relationships with our labour partners is good for the people of the province. You know from the time I was a school trustee it's always been my contention that having conflictual relationships with labour partners doesn't help. It doesn't help the people who depend on services. So we are consistently talking with labour partners about agreements and how do we move to smooth resolution of issues. So that's part of this. We're in a ratification period. We need to let that that play out. And we need to let the members, need to let the members look at the tentative agreement and make their determination.

Q: [Inaudible] help you offer more money to the teachers to other [inaudible]?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well one of the things that has been very, very consistent in this province over the last nearly a decade is that we have had to work very hard with our labour partners to keep those increases down. I mean, we went through a period of net zero increases. And you look across the country; I talked to my colleague premiers, you look across the country that hasn't been the case in every province. And so you know, one of the reasons that we have been able to come to this position now where we are able to balance the budget, where we are able to make investments is that we've worked very well with our labour partners and so we're going to continue to do that.

Q: Premier [inaudible] energy and finance for today, what are your thoughts?

PREMIER WYNNE: It is in court today. I am not going to comment on a court process. They you know, there will be a determination as a result of the hearing and we'll wait and see what happens there.

Q: Premier [Inaudible] meet with the mayors of Dallas and [inaudible]. I wonder if you can comment a bit about the whole [inaudible] posed to sign, right? [Inaudible]--?

PREMIER WYNNE: So I will raise the whole issue of Buy America with Mayors Price and Rowlings and we have had representatives in Texas talking to legislators about this. You know, this fits in the context of my visit to Washington last week where I met with a number of senators and congress people and talked to them about how important our integrated economies are and how damaging some of the protectionist initiatives could be. So whether it's a border adjustment tax, whether it's Buy America, whether it's punitive NAFTA initiatives which you know, I have to say in every conversation there was a really strong understanding of how integrated our economies are. My hope is that in my conversation with the mayors today is that they will you know, they'll be able to give me some insight into what more we could do to talk to legislators in Texas about what kind of exemptions, what kind of alternatives there might be for Ontario and Canada.

Q: [Inaudible]?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well no, that's true that's true. But my understanding is that there you know, there may be ways as we move forward to make sure that our industry here in Ontario is not unduly damaged by this.

Q: [Inaudible]?

PREMIER WYNNE: It's not, it's not, it's not as, it's not as important to us as say it is to Alberta. There's more connection there but we want to make it clear that in all of these situations there are interconnections that are increasingly important and that where we can we reinforce and strengthen our collective economies rather than weaken.

Q: You're not at the point where you will introduce legislation [inaudible]?

PREMIER WYNNE: No, no we're not we're not at that point.

Q: Premier, if you can't talk about the lawsuit itself could you at least talk about your justification for why you, you know, continued with the sale of the shares in Hydro One? [Inaudible] people are really, really against this--

PREMIER WYNNE: Well, and you know our rationale for broadening the ownership of Hydro One is exactly today what it was when we began and you know Mayor Crombie and I were just talking about the investments in infrastructure and how vital they are to Mississauga, but how vital they are across the province. And connected to that, those investments in infrastructure are part of the economic growth that we're seeing. It struck me when I was in Washington how many conversations I had with leaders who are very worried about the lack of investment in their own jurisdictions; the problems that they are having in terms of moving forward with updating infrastructure, modernizing infrastructure and the impact that that has on the economic growth of their regions. We are ahead of that curve in Ontario. We're actually ahead of the curve across the country in terms of having made a determination that investing in roads and bridges and transit and hospitals and schools; that that was a short-term, good economic strategy in terms of creating jobs, but even more importantly it's a long-term strategy in terms of having that infrastructure in place so that there's business that can be attracted so that there's job creation and the necessary economic stability that province-- or that municipalities need. So I'm very,

very convinced that making these investments is critical and will continue to be critical, and part of that was broadening the ownership of Hydro One. That was part of the strategy that allowed us to make these investments.

Q: [Inaudible] at the beginning and yet the public still seems to be against it. Why is there--how come the public's so against this thing?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well you know you will have to ask, you'll have to ask those people who are framing this as a problem. I mean I think that one of the things that is a challenge is that we have to continue to make the connection between the fact that the broadening the ownership of Hydro One has allowed us to make these investments and we will continue to demonstrate that. And as I say, you'll have to talk to the folks who are making those statements.

Q: [Speaking French] [Inaudible] with Radio-Canada, I will ask my question in French. Why have you continued to [Inaudible] Hydro One after people are not very happy with this plan?

PREMIER WYNNE: [Speaking French] So, it is important for the economic development of our province to invest in infrastructure, public transportation, hospitals schools, roads, bridges. This is important for municipalities, but it is also important for the economy of Ontario and this is why we have made these investments.

Q: [Inaudible]

PREMIER WYNNE: You know what my thought is that it's a really important marker for this country and this province, our 150th birthday, and we have as a province invested in festivals all across the province to allow communities to celebrate in the way that they deem to be appropriate, to allow them to draw tourists and to have fun during this celebration. And you know we have allowed festivals to determine what that means in their communities. So I look forward to those celebrations. Bonnie and I were talking about the many celebrations that are going to be happening on Canada 150 on Canada Day in Mississauga. I am going to be here at Queen's Park. I am going to be in my own riding for part of the day and then I'm going to be, the next day, I'm going to be in Ottawa and I will be meeting the Premier of Quebec on the bridge to celebrate Canada 150. There are really important celebrations going on in the context of a country that has there has been a strong model for the world of our ability to be a harmonious diverse place to live. So I'm really looking forward to those celebrations.

Q: Premier, why do you think the Tories are so obsessed with the fact that you're going to call a snap election this summer? They sent out a fundraising memo last week even though you said even though you said when Mike asked the question last week or two weeks ago, you said no, the election is June 7th 2018. Why do you think that they're so, despite no evidence whatsoever of you guys calling a snap election, that they're so obsessed by it?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well again are you asking me to analyze the intricacies of the Tory strategy? Not going to be able to do that. I don't know, I thought it was interesting that there was a fundraising letter that went out. I have no idea. We're having an election next June and we invite everyone to come.

Q: [Inaudible]

PREMIER WYNNE: Yeah that's a very important conversation. You'll remember some months ago Mayor Watson from Ottawa came and we had a meeting and he was developing a strategy

in Ottawa. We have provincial opioid strategy and we have been making investments and will continue to make investments in things like safe injection sites and work with municipalities. I thought at the time that it would be important to bring together the mayors because each municipality is somewhat different and Mayor Crombie and I were talking about this this morning, there are, you know there are municipalities where this has been an ongoing issue and they are seeing some spikes and then there are municipalities where this has not been an issue at all and now all of a sudden it is something that they are grappling with. So I think the sharing of information, making sure that where there is expertise that can be shared, that that happens and where there are gaps that we as a province know what those gaps are and work with municipalities to make sure that they get closed.

Q: [Inaudible]

PREMIER WYNNE: Well you know I think both. I mean I think it will be largely information sharing. The minister will be making some announcements today about some additional steps that we're going to take but I fully expect that out of this conversation may come some other concrete things that we could do. You know we were talking earlier about see the need to share information across boundaries and borders and I want to make sure that each of the municipalities is getting the information that they need, they're getting the cooperation that they need, and if that's not happening then we need to change that. There is always the opportunity to improve the way we work together and on this issue which is really a crisis across the country, we each have to do our part to make sure that in our jurisdictions we're working as hard as we can to collaborate.

Q: Premier quick question, do you intend on attending Pride [Inaudible]--?

PREMIER WYNNE: Yes I'll be, yes I'll be at Toronto Pride. Yeah.

Q: Are you disappointed with the fact that [Inaudible]--?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well I think I said earlier in the year that my hope was that they would be able to have a conversation with the Pride committee. You know what, the Pride committee needs to make its decisions, hey need to operate as they can and with some autonomy, but this is-- Pride is a very important celebration for, not just for the city, but for people who come into the city to this safe space.

Q: [Inaudible].

PREMIER WYNNE: Well again, you'll have to talk to the Pride committee about that.

Q: [Inaudible]

PREMIER WYNNE: So, so you know, again, I will just say that I hope over the longer term that they'll be able to work with the police services and, you know, that they will be able to come to a resolution of whatever the differences are. But that's not going to, that's not going to stop the community from celebrating. Okay thanks everybo--

Q: [Inaudible].

MAYOR CROMBIE: So the infrastructure is very weak in the south end of the city. You're quite right. So we have time now to prepare, and this was highlighted in my discussion with the

premier, the lack of transit infrastructure along the Lakeshore corridor. And we've got so much development as you've noted and we're very, very proud of that. In fact, 177 acres on the Lakeview; 75 acres on - it's going to be called the West Village, the old Imperial Oil land, the oil refinery; Port Street on top of that. We face gridlock and congestion today so by the time we break ground which is probably not for five years or so, we have time now to start to get ready. So we are analyzing that corridor looking for opportunities to build in higher order transit. Not on Lakeshore, but either south, north we're looking for those options; we are getting ready. We're preparing ourselves.

Q: But right now there's no plan--?

MAYOR CROMBIE: There is a plan to create a plan. We understand there's an issue, a large issue. There have been a couple of community meetings. The residents have brought it highlighted to our attention. They didn't need to. We are very aware of the lack of infrastructure to accommodate all the new growth and all the new development on the Lakeshore corridor so we're getting ready.

PREMIER WYNNE INTERVIEW WITH THE TORONTO STAR (2017.06.08)

Date: June 8, 2017
Length: 11:43 minutes
Speaker(s): Premier Kathleen Wynne; Daniel Dale, Washington Correspondent for the Toronto Star

DANIEL DALE, WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT FOR THE TORONTO STAR: [Inaudible] is there a particular message that you coming bearing today about Trump or about anything?

PREMIER KATHLEEN WYNNE: I think the message that I come away from this trip with is that the relationship between Ontario, between Canada and the United States is a fundamental one to both of our economies. Every meeting that I've had there's been a clear understanding that that's the case and even though we're in an unpredictable environment right now, whether it's unpredictable politically or unpredictable in terms of exactly what the trade negotiation is going to look like, it is our job, my job as Premier of Ontario, our jobs as premiers of the provinces and territories, to make sure that we protect the interests of the people who live in our jurisdictions, to make sure that we stand up for their best interests and that we work with our counterparts in the United States who are going to be doing the work on negotiating this trade agreement or making decisions around border adjustment taxes or Buy America. You know all of those issues could pose a threat to the people of Canada and in my case, Ontario. And so it's my job to make sure that I do everything I can to protect and stand up for the people of the province.

DALE: Okay. You met Republican lawmakers; what did you say to them and what did they say to you about NAFTA and Ontario?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well it's so interesting to me because there is such a clear understanding that our economies are integrated and that we've been good neighbours and friends and that in this negotiation what we need to be looking for are ways to strengthen that relationship. You know having said that, we are operating in an unpredictable environment but they're - whether it's the Senators or it's staff who are working for Senators or Secretaries - they understand that it is in the best interest of the people of the United States that the partnership with Canada continue and that it be strong.

DALE: [Inaudible Question]

PREMIER WYNNE: Well he said just that. He was very clear about the friendship between Ontario and Canada and the United States and that what's important— one of the cases, one for the points I've made in all of the cases Daniel is that one of our worries in Canada, certainly in Ontario, is that we will be collateral damage in a process that is actually not targeted at us and so I think it's really important that we continue to be vigilant. And actually that's one of the things that Stephen Schwarzman [sp.?] said, is that this story needs to be told. It needs to be clear to the general public how beneficial this relationship has been and how we can make it stronger.

DALE: Are you worried at all when you know you've heard the president [Inaudible] talking about Canadian trade [Inaudible]. Regardless of what you hear from [Inaudible], are you concerned by what we hear sometimes from him [Inaudible]--?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well I think that's part of what creates the uncertainty. You know the unpredictability of those opinions or those statements make it less certain exactly what the trajectory of these conversations is going to be. But what that does is it just confirms for me how important it is that we continue to have these discussions. You know it's interesting, I was talking to folks who are organizing the National Governors Association and I'm going to be attending that in Rhode Island in the summer and they are very keen that they have premiers there. You know they're very interested and they're already a record number of governments that have signed up and I'm going to be going down and I'm going to be sitting on a panel. So I think there is a heightened understanding and a heightened appreciation, and a heightened anxiety that we make sure that this relationship stays intact because remember all of these folks, whether they're Senators, whether they're Governors, they're hearing from the businesses in their jurisdictions. You know they're hearing about—they're hearing from the businesses that have joint interests in Canada and in the United States. I sat beside a young man; we were at the business leaders meeting put on by the Chamber of Commerce on Monday night—Tuesday night, whatever night that was, Tuesday night. And you know I sat beside a guy who's in the construction business and he's got people working on the Eglinton Crosstown line, you know, so the connections are very, very direct. And they're talking to their Governors; they're talking to their Senators and commerce people. So I think that the uncertainty creates an even stronger imperative for us to be vigilant and work together.

DALE: Are there particular Ontario sectors that will be undercut by either a NAFTA renegotiation in particular or [Inaudible]--?

PREMIER WYNNE: So the sectors that came up, that I raised and then came up spontaneously when I was meeting with folks who were agriculture and the auto sector; I brought up the auto sector. I always use the auto sector as an example of exactly how integrated we are and it was interesting, many of the folks that we were meeting with, they know the story about the car crossing the border seven to nine times before it's finally built and my sense is that nobody wants to interrupt that supply chain, you know that they understand that. The, you know, the agriculture discussion is a challenging one. Softwood lumber came up obviously. Brian Gallant from New Brunswick is concerned about softwood lumber as we are. At times we were having that conversation in the context of NAFTA, at times we were having the softwood lumber conversations that were from NAFTA, but it's all of the same nature. You know these are important relationships. There are irritants and we need to work those out without disrupting the overall relationship.

DALE: Okay, you came here on, you know, what some people are calling 'Comey Day'. [Inaudible] Do you feel the sort of chaos that's [Inaudible]--?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well, I mean clearly today it is on everyone's mind. But again, I think what it does is it creates that, it creates that uncertainty. And that you know that can be very worrisome. I absolutely understand that and I can kind of feel that here in Washington. But it cannot distract us from what our focus has to be and that is improving this relationship. You know, I will just say one more thing that again in almost every conversation, as we talk about renegotiating NAFTA, at the core of this discussion is a real concern about people who have been left out, people who have lost their jobs, lost their middle-class jobs, and the sense that the promise of what our western democracies were going to deliver; that somehow that has been undermined. And you know as an Ontario premier I get that trade is part of that but I also know that there is a much bigger issue. I think that -- we look at globalization generally, you look at technology and the (inaudible) of change in technology. And so in Ontario we're trying to address those things apart

from trade. Trade is a part of it but you know, whether child care spaces or free tuition or OHIP plus or you know, minimum wage that is a living wage; those are supports that we believe are going to help people as we go through this transition into this -- whatever the new economy is going to look like; whatever this new global economy is going to look like. It is not just about trade. Trade is incredibly important but government has another role to play to create an environment where people can get along.

DALE: Is there anything about NAFTA, (inaudible) the trade relationship more broadly that you think Ontario would benefit from changing; modernizing?

PREMIER WYNNE: Yeah I think there are some areas. So for example, we talked in most of these conversations about the fact that there is nothing about digital. You know, there is nothing about those kinds of regulations that we need to be paying attention to. And I think those are the areas where the modernization can benefit all of us and we will be making that case. I think there is harmonization of regulation (inaudible) could make our jurisdiction function better together. So I do see the opportunity. There is no -- you know, there is no agreement that after 25 years we couldn't use a refresh and so we are going to take this opportunity but we are going to continue to make the case that a lot of it has worked very, very well.

DALE: When we last met here you said that Trump would be a danger to Canada and the world. Do you think your (inaudible) correct?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well, I think I will leave that to the (inaudible) and the historians but I do believe that there is more uncertainty in our -- certainly in our North American context but I think globally. And it is those uncertainties that we have to -- you know we have to be aware of but we also have to continue to do things that create much security and as much certainty in our jurisdiction.

DALE: Even our federal government seems to be making a greater effort to build relationships with governors and states (inaudible). Do you as a premier do anything different to strengthen those relationships with (inaudible)?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well, you know we're -- I am reaching out on a weekly basis you know, in talking with governors. I will be attending the National Governor's Association. You know, I am working very hard to build relationship where I haven't necessarily in the past. But I mean, I have always had connections with governors. I have always reached out but I would say because of the uncertainty that we are dealing with the role of the leaders of provinces and states is actually even more important because there is so much work that can be done at that level. And if we know each other we can support each other in our treaties to our federal governments and in the processes that they are engaged in. We need to be able to work together.

DALE: I think my time is almost up. Is there anything else (inaudible)?

PREMIER WYNNE: No I think that's good.

DALE: Okay.

PREMIER WYNNE: Wish you all the best.

DALE: Thank you so much. Thank you for your time.

Date: June 8, 2017
Length: 12:16 minutes
Speaker(s): Premier Kathleen Wynne; Adrian Morrow, Globe & Mail Washington Correspondent

PREMIER KATHLEEN WYNNE: So what a time to be down here.

ADRIAN MORROW, GLOBE & MAIL WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT: Yeah it's the -- you know, (inaudible) anytime especially now right?

PREMIER KATHLEEN WYNNE: Yeah.

MORROW: So to what extent -- I mean what are you hearing from the people that you have been meeting with and the -- you know, whether it is the administration or other people who (inaudible) President here, you know, do you think that they are actually going to be able to you know, sort of divert the NAFTA you know, renegotiations and maybe just like updating it to make it look like they're (inaudible) what we want or you know, or?

PREMIER WYNNE: It has been fascinating actually meeting these folks. And it was great to be here at the same time that other (inaudible) are here because we had an opportunity to kind of, present a more national picture of Canada. I haven't -- we haven't been in one meeting and I haven't been in one meeting on my own where there hasn't been a clear understanding of how integrated our economies are. And you know that -- I think I talked to you about that; that's what I hear when I talk to governors and it's been the same as with all of the folks that we've met with down here. The consternation about particular issues, whether it's dairy or you know, whether it's trade in regards to auto or whatever; it's different depending on the jurisdiction that folks represent. But the overall understanding that this is a relationship that we (inaudible) and is mutually beneficial has been pretty universal. So that gives me a lot of encouragement. Everyone has reinforced that it is important for us to continue to talk with them. In a couple of meetings we were encouraged to really step up and continue where we are; meeting with governors, that that role of the state and the provincial relationship is important so that it is coming from folks who are here in Washington. So that has all been a pretty clear validation of what we are doing.

MORROW: And sorry who was that that was encouraging that? That was on....

PREMIER WYNNE: There were a couple of (inaudible).

MORROW: (Inaudible).

PREMIER WYNNE: No, senators...

MORROW: Okay.

PREMIER WYNNE: ...saying that that was an important conversation. Because they know the roles that their governors will play as we go through this process.

MORROW: And do you get the sense that the governors or the other people that you sort of – because I mean, seeing that your government strategy is to have everybody (inaudible) you know ring or two away from the administration in hopes that then those Americans will kind of take – you know, our method into the administration (inaudible). But sort of putting pressure on other people who then put pressure on Donald Trump. I mean, do you get the sense that that is actually working? I mean could – we're you know, taking our case to the governors and taking our case to all kinds of people but do you get the sense that they are actually going to turn around and say you know, "Hey Donald, don't you know, don't tear up NAFTA because it is really going to hurt Michigan or whatever."

PREMIER WYNNE: Well I mean I think we have to be talking at all levels. So we are talking to governors. We talked to senators and folks who were working on the (inaudible) committee for example. But we also have talked to folks from the administration. So I'm (inaudible) Toronto with (inaudible) and the premiers (inaudible). We met with Steven Schwarzman yesterday who you know, has a strong voice with the President. So I think that there has to be that direct intervention and there has to be the sort of, support surrounding intervention as well. Because again, as I say, every single conversation we've had we have had validated how important the relationship is so those messages need to be heard by the President and the administration from all angles.

MORROW: Do you get the sense that maybe you know, (inaudible) pretty pro-NAFTA (inaudible) American agriculture has been under, but did you get the impression in talking to him that these people actually can have you know, control with the President or sort of you know, push him in the right direction on this stuff or because I mean – well just – you know, because Trump can be such a loose cannon. Like you get the sense that they really – you know, people really (inaudible).

PREMIER WYNNE: Yeah it's interesting. It's interesting that the (inaudible) haven't really been that explicit. You know, it hasn't been about "We are going to say this to you and then we expect you to go straight to the President and deliver the message." It's much more "We are interested in making sure that everybody understands that 'A', what the numbers are. You know, that it is 9 million (inaudible) that is dependent on Canadian companies, that there is \$800 million worth of goods and services that go across the border every single day. You know, just make sure that everybody knows that and everybody does. They get that. But they're also paying really close attention and that we are going to be involved. The premiers of the provinces and the territories are going to be involved. We are not at the table but the federal government is going to be working with us very closely and we're going to be making our voices heard. And you know, as the premier of the largest province in the country I am going to have a lot to say about what happens in the NAFTA negotiations. I am going to be very clear about (inaudible) in Ontario.

MORROW: (Inaudible). Do you get the sense that – because yeah the people that you are talking to you know, maybe the people at the new administration obviously understand the importance of the integrated economy but do you get the impression from them that they are able to kind of you know, steer things in the right direction or have they given you any kind of sense that well yeah you can tell us this but at the end of the day we don't really know (inaudible)?

PREMIER WYNNE: I certainly haven't heard anyone say that because these are people who are going to be directly involved and so what I heard people say is it's really important for us to hear the messages. It is really important for all of us to be talking about the importance of the

relationship (inaudible). I mean that's something that came out a couple of times in meetings; was that we need to tell our story about this relationship far and wide you know. Because there are lots of political misconceptions about what free trade is, who it is benefiting who it hasn't. I think the other thing that is interesting about the conversations we've had is that there is also a message standing among all of us that the malaise or the anxiety that people are feeling is not just about trade. You know, so when we talk about people who feel left behind and people who don't feel like they are able to (inaudible) the economy, we all talked about technology. We all talked about globalization more broadly. So there are other forces at work and so we need to – you know, we have a responsibility to be honest about what trade can and cannot do. And then also for me, this is my takeaway Adrian, that things that we are doing in Ontario, whether it's you know, free tuition or childcare or OHIP plus, we are trying to address some of those anxieties outside of the trade relationship because the trade relationship is not going to solve everything. No matter what happens with NAFTA it is not going to solve all the problems or dissipation of people in a modern globalized economy. It is just not. And so you know, for me it is really important that I am able to talk in Ontario about having a strong voice with our colleagues in the States, doing everything that we can and at the same time recognizing that there are other things that we have to do.

MORROW: Do you think they get that? I mean do you think Shwarzman and (inaudible) and these other guys (inaudible).

PREMIER WYNNE: I will be honest with you; I didn't talk in a lot of detail about what we are doing in Ontario. This is really about talking about trade and quite a -- you know, they've been quite narrow conversations in that way. A couple of times we got into a discussion about you know, as we renegotiate NAFTA we do need to think about the people who have been dislocated or maybe further dislocated because of these other pressures. And I have a couple of times said you know, I think it is important that as we go through this we actually take that into account. Maybe it is a parallel conversation. But maybe it is also a conversation as we look at changes to NAFTA. And remember we are not just talking about Canada and the States; we are talking about Mexico as well. And I think that there is huge anxiety. We met with some of the Mexican representatives yesterday (inaudible) and there is huge anxiety in Mexico about the future of their society and their workers if the (inaudible) change. So we have a North American responsibility to talk about all of the forces (inaudible).

MORROW: Is it sort of awkward or difficult to kind of lobby the Trump administration after you -- you know, came out so strongly against him last year and you know, called him out on it on misogyny and you know, talked about how dangerous of a guy he would be if you know, he was elected?

PREMIER WYNNE: You know, the conversation we've been having here are about the well-being of the Ontario and Canadian economy. I have -- I think I said at the time that there would always be personal disagreement. I mean there is no secret about that but the fact is, this is a relationship that is critical to both of our jurisdictions and I so I will do everything I can in my power to protect and advance Ontario's interest.

MORROW: The day after the election you told me that you thought that you know, Donald Trump would be a very dangerous person you know, (inaudible) taking office. Do you still feel that way you know, now that we are a few months (inaudible). Do you still feel he is kind of a dangerous guy?

PREMIER WYNNE: You know I am going to leave that to the (inaudible) and the analysts. My job....

MORROW: When has (inaudible) ever stopped you before?

PREMIER WYNNE: That my job is to protect Ontario. He is the President of the United States. He was elected by the people of his country and my job is to work with the people who are doing the work around this trade relationship that is so critical to Ontario.

MORROW: And the very last thing before I (inaudible) myself, is – do you feel hopeful kind of coming out of this? Do you think that things have kind of been steered in the right direction or that there are not – you know Canada has enough allies here that we can -- whether it's you know, congress (inaudible) or people who (inaudible) that can push him in the right direction; that we are actually going to – you know, when we sit down (inaudible) and start negotiating, it is going to be a negotiation about how do you make NAFTA better as opposed to how do you, you know, put up more protection (inaudible)?

PREMIER WYNNE: I think there is a good chance that it will be valued. I think there is a good chance that it will be a very rational process that looks at how do we improve NAFTA. But I think it's unpredictable. I don't, I don't – I can't guarantee that because there are – you know, there are some very strong voices that are really concerned about particular aspects of the trade deal. I think we have to be vigilant. You know, I don't think we can just say "Oh, well now we've been to Washington. It's all good. It's on the right track." We are going to continue to reach out. We are going to continue --we are going to follow up on these conversations that we've had because again the people who are working and living here are operating in an unpredictable and uncertain environment and so we have to respect that and continue to support them; and say advance what they know is their mutual – is our mutual benefit (inaudible).

MORROW: Great thank you.

PREMIER WYNNE: Thanks Adrian.

PREMIER WYNNE INTERVIEW WITH CANADIAN PRESS (2017.06.08)

Date: June 8, 2017
Length: 10:56 minutes
Speaker(s): Premier Kathleen Wynne; Alexander Panetta, Canadian Press Washington Correspondent

ALEXANDER PANETTA, CANADIAN PRESS WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT: Hello again.

PREMIER KATHLEEN WYNNE: Hi Alex, it's Kathleen.

PANETTA: Hi, how's it going?

PREMIER WYNNE: Good how are you?

PANETTA: Not too bad, not too bad. The world has changed since we last met here in Washington.

PREMIER WYNNE: It has indeed. And this is quite a day for you guys.

PANETTA: Yeah I know it's amazing. So I'm going from covering Comey to the Wilson Center, to over the premiers and then back to Comey so it's going to be a pretty long go.

PREMIER WYNNE: Well good luck with it.

PANETTA: Well thanks and you know what, you mentioned [Inaudible]. Can I just start off with the elephant in the room being this sort of, some of the [Inaudible] of this administration. Just wanted to ask you a question about that and whether— the clouds hanging over the Trump administration something the premiers and the Canadian policy makers are taking into account when they assess the likelihood of having to negotiate NAFTA or how the NAFTA negotiations might unfold? [Inaudible]

PREMIER WYNNE: So Alex, you know I think that our job is to connect with the people who are going to be doing this work or who are already doing this work. We have to assume that a renegotiation of NAFTA is going to happen. We have to assume that our positions need to be put and we need to, you know as a premier, we need to work with our federal government and our contacts in the United States to make sure that people understand where we're coming from and where our interests are. That's our job and I think that whatever other political uncertainty is at play, I mean it does introduce an element of unpredictability into the situation but it doesn't change our jobs. You know what I mean? That sounds like a contradiction in terms but it's actually what we're living right now. We have to carry on as though this is going to be a straightforward process and make it as straightforward a process as possible.

PANETTA: Alright so now just moving on from the process itself; so you've met with—it's a pretty impressive roster of names [Inaudible] just looked at the sort of the scope of it. What, [Inaudible]--?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well I think what has been really gratifying is that in all of those meeting, and I just have to say, people have been incredibly gracious. You know the Senators that we've met with and the folks who are staff of Senators; they have been very, very helpful and very open to meeting with us. Whether it's the meetings with the other premiers or the bilateral meetings that I've had, they've been extremely helpful. And I say that because you know they're very busy; they're involved in the changes and in the work that's going on right now in this, you know, in this vast, fast-paced environment that they're working in. But what that has said to me is they all really understand the importance of the relationship with Canada and with the provinces. There hasn't been one meeting where there hasn't been a clear understanding that we're, you know, we have integrated economies; that it's going to be imperative that we work together. Of course there are irritants and there are areas where, you know, there's going to be harder work to do because there are some conflicts, but overall the desire to make the agreement better and to make the partnership that has worked so well, to make it even stronger, has been very, very evident.

PANETTA: Did you get a sense from people about whether the Plan A right now in Washington is to go for a quick, relatively simple negotiation or a very broad, detailed, in-depth negotiation on NAFTA?

PREMIER WYNNE: I would say that overall the quicker—the quicker sort of, less comprehensive review is what people are looking at. And I don't mean by that there wouldn't be a lot of detail because there always is detail in these negotiations but I think everyone that I spoke to felt that there was a way through this negotiation that would not overturn everything in the agreement; that there were ways to deal with some of the changes. For example Alex, in every single conversation I believe we all acknowledged that there were areas in the agreement that didn't even exist when it was first negotiated. So we talked about digital and we talked about intellectual property and some of those areas that, you know, that really need to be inserted into the agreement as opposed to undermining everything that's there. So I think there's a hope that we can move through this pretty efficiently and improve what's there and add what's missing.

PANETTA: Interesting, so was that impression left by the administration, by USTR or what is, you know, something you [Inaudible] on Capitol Hill where the opinion must be slightly different?

PREMIER WYNNE: Yeah I'd say—you know USTR, they're very much in the detail and they know all of the—they're hearing all of the concerns. So I think that they've probably got a longer list of concerns than some others, but even there I would say that there seems to be a willingness to let's look at what we can fix and let's come to an agreement and let's move ahead. Nobody is saying that it will be completely smooth. Nobody is saying that, you know, it's going to be fast for the sake of being fast but I think because there's such a clear understanding, certainly in the Canada-U.S. relationship, that it's so critical and it has worked pretty well, I think that the desire to move through it as expeditiously as possible.

PANETTA: Okay, I think I've got two questions left to respect the time that you set out. One is on [Inaudible] automobiles, obviously very important to your province. Did you get any sense – obviously the U.S. government is very keen on residual roles of [Inaudible], now the question is how they want to do it – did you get a sense of whether they're looking at something that Ontario could be happy with or were they looking at some kind of a Buy America, you know, sub-rule or a very high [Inaudible]. You know like did you get a sense of whether something that could be favourable for your province?

PREMIER WYNNE: You know we honestly didn't talk at a lot of detail. I mean there was definitely a notion of do no harm in these conversations; that there's a recognition that upsetting a balance that is working well on the supply chain could do harm on both sides of the border, but we really didn't talk detail on any of those issues.

PANETTA: Okay, so Buy America, obviously it's a huge priority for Canadians, it could potentially be a sticking point here as Canada looks to expand or sort of reduce the Buy American universe, whereas [Inaudible] would like to expand the sort of Buy American exemptions and [Inaudible]. Can I ask you about Ontario's own Buy American [Inaudible] policies, either in green energy, in infrastructure, in liquor, are these to protect a Buy Ontario provision or would you want to give them up [Inaudible]--?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well we've been pretty clear that—well a couple of things; we don't want a trade war, we don't any of this. Whether it's on Buy America, whether it's on NAFTA, we don't want a trade war and I'm not, you know I'm not interested in, in the first instance, looking at retaliation on anything. I, you know, I want us to continue to work together and strengthen and evolve our relationship. But we've been, you know we've been clear that where there are very restrictive Buy America policies or provisions that are being looked at, and you know Alex the work that Monique Smith whose our representative in Washington did in New York, we have, you know we have folks working with us here in the United States where there are Buy America policies being considered where we're going to go and make the arguments. You know we're going to go and demonstrate the degree to which more restrictive Buy America policies would be detrimental to those jurisdictions because of the interrelationships, the jobs that are dependent on Canadian companies. So we'll continue to make those arguments. I know that, as I said before, I know that there will be mutual irritants that we're going to need to deal with, but we're going to be pretty clear about restrictive Buy America policies that we will opposed them and we'll do what we can to make our case. As we did in New York and the Buy America provision was removed from the budget.

PANETTA: Okay, alright. If you had time for one more I'd ask you about Barrie and whether the government's—actually you know what, I'll ask you about the provincial government's role in this negotiation. Do you think it's reasonable to expect that the provincial governments should have some kind of a formal seat at the table where you sort of have that input and [Inaudible] as negotiations proceed?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well you know what, I've been very clear, as all of the premiers have with the Prime Minister, that we want to have a role, a strong role to play in the negotiation. I understand, you know, I understand the rationale for not having everybody at the table but we're going to be very close to the table Alex as we were with the CETA negotiations.

PANETTA: Okay, thank you so much for your time. I appreciate it.

PREMIER WYNNE: Thank you very much. Okay, take care. Have a good day today.

PANETTA: Alright take care, you too.

PREMIER WYNNE: Bye-bye.

*PREMIER WYNNE'S MEDIA AVAILABILITY AT SEUS-CP CONFERENCE IN TORONTO
(2017.06.05)*

Date: June 5, 2017
Length: 17:34 minutes
Speaker(s): Premier Kathleen Wynne;
Brian Gallant, Premier of New Brunswick;
David H. Wilkins, Former U.S. Ambassador To Canada

PREMIER KATHLEEN WYNNE: Good afternoon, everyone. Boozhoo aanii. It's great to have you all here, and thanks for joining us today. I'm very pleased to be hosting the conference of the South Eastern United States Canadian Provinces Alliance in its tenth year, SEUS-CP. It's great to have everyone here and we're welcoming a historic number of anchor companies to this year's event so there are plenty of opportunities that folks have had today to re-establish connections, build new partnerships, and so we're very pleased to have everyone here. I want to thank my fellow Heads of Delegations from New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador, PEI, North Carolina, and South Carolina for being here on the stage and Minister Chan for joining me. We also have had Heads of Delegation from Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi, Georgia and Quebec so it's been a very full day. We've just wrapped up, as I say, productive meetings between government representatives leading businesses from across the southeast United States and eastern Canada, and this alliance is all about businesses and jobs so for example today we had the opportunity to talk about the things that we are doing in our own jurisdictions and how those are going and the kind of success and growth that we are seeing. For example, today I had the opportunity to talk about Ontario's competitiveness and I talked, for example, about introducing the Fair Workplaces and raising minimum wage. I talked about the investments that we have been making, so we've had a good exchange of ideas and it's about what each of us is doing in our jurisdictions and the opportunities that are before us. So the alliance is about creating connections between Canadian and US businesses so they can find trade, they can find investment opportunities and we build things together. That's what the jurisdictions that have been meeting today do. We spur innovation. We share expertise, and so our partnerships then fuel economic growth, deliver tangible outcomes for people, workers, businesses and we heard about that today from each of each of the jurisdictions. What we also talked about was the increasing interconnectedness of the jurisdictions that have been meeting today. We restated our commitment to working together. We talked about the mutual benefits of that interconnectedness and of a strong partnership.

[Speaking French] Today as members of the alliance whose economies are more and more interconnected, we are reaffirming our engagement to work together because we are stronger together. The alliance is another example of the productive leadership role Ontario is playing in its relationship with the United States which are our most important commercial partners. They are our great friends and our neighbours.

[Speaking English] SEUS-CP is just one example of the leadership that Ontario is striving to take in an active way on engaging with the US, our number one trade partner, our close friend and neighbor, and as you know, I'm engaging regularly with the Canadian government, my fellow Premier's, and my governor partners to advocate for Ontario's interests both at home and south of the border. We're advocating for our businesses were advocating for our workers and we are all doing that. This week I will travel to Washington DC with a number of Canada's

premieres. In DC, we'll keep advancing the interests of our businesses, our workers, and we'll be continuing to strive to find common ground. I will just say that in every conversation that I've had today, there is plenty of common ground. There is plenty of shared and mutual interest. That's the benefit of having these face to face opportunities to strengthen relationships. So we'll continue to be proactive. We'll continue to push for free and fair trade because that's how economies on both sides of the border will flourish. So I just want to take this opportunity to thank all of our colleagues. It's been a pleasure to host the SEUS-CP and to make sure that this alliance has the benefit of our support going forward. So I will now open the floor to questions, and if you will direct your questions to any of us here at the table. Thank you. Merci.

Q: Premier Wynne, I'm curious how you feel about Philippe Couillard's call to reopen the constitution, and also how you feel about Trudeau, the prime minister, essentially dismissing it out of hand?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well let me just say that Ontario and Quebec have a very, very strong partnership. We will continue to build on that partnership, and I think that there is a lot on all of our plates right now. I always have the pleasure of working with Premier Couillard, and I will see him later this month, and I look forward to the files that we're working on. We're working together on electricity partnerships, we are absolutely committed to our partnership in cap and trade, and so, you know, there are so many joint ventures that we have with Quebec that I think that that is what is preoccupying us at the moment and certainly the people of Ontario.

Q: Would you support reopening the Constitution?

PREMIER WYNNE: You know, first of all, I'm not sure that that's what Premier Couillard is looking for at this moment. I understand that he's put forward a statement about Quebec's place in the country and I think that the most important thing that we can do is to build those strong relationships and to continue to foster a strong Federation. That's what I'm interested in.

Q: [Speaking French] Madam Wynne, Mr. Gallant, have talks on free trade monopolized today's discussions? Are industry leaders from both sides of the border talking about the future of free trade?

BRIAN GALLANT, PREMIER OF NEW BRUNSWICK: [Speaking French] Today there is no doubt the discussion centered on free trade and specifically on the economic relationship between Canada and the United States. I think we heard every person during their speeches speak the importance of this relationship. So it is a bit like preaching to the converted but despite this, it is also important to continue to have a dialogue about not only the importance of our economic relationship but also how to build on that relationship. Obviously we understand that this will play out at the federal level in both countries but we are realizing to what extent the provinces, states, businesses and other community leaders can play a role. That is part of the approach we are taking here today. It is the approach I think 7 or 8 Premiers who will travel to Washington tomorrow and Wednesday. And that is the approach that we will continue to take in the coming weeks and months. And to be clear, it is obvious once again today, and it is obvious when talking about statistics which we saw in the presentations, economic trade with the United States is crucial for the Canadian economy and the U.S. economy. We heard several times that Canada is the top trading partner for more than 30 states in terms of exports. And we understand millions of jobs in the U.S. were created because of the economic trade with Canada. So in this case, we have a great story to tell so we have to look for opportunities to discuss and tell this story but we can't take anything for granted. A relation which was developed over many years, we will work very hard not to take anything for granted and speak

to as many people as possible about continuing the economic benefits now enjoyed by both countries.

Q: [Speaking French] I would like to know Madam Wynne while you are in Washington, how will you convince American legislators, to rise above partisanship, rise above the vision they have about a country which stands alone, which favours its own industries?

PREMIER WYNNE: [Speaking French] As Mr. Gallant has said, I don't think it is a question of convincing anyone. I believe it is a question of relationships which are good and we can work to improve them, perhaps make those relationships stronger. For me, that is the reason for going to Washington to speak with representatives, Senators, members of Congress and the government. But it is not an argument. It is not a difficult discussion. It is a conversation like in a family.

[Speaking English] Who said it was conversation among a family. Oh it was Secretary Perdue.

[Speaking French] It is a conversation among a family. In any families, there are moments which are difficult and we have some differences. But we are a family and we can work together today and in the future.

Q: I'm supposed to introduce myself right? Mike Crawley from CBC News. Premier Wynne, slightly off topic but on Wednesday it marks one year away until the election. Just wanted to ask you how you're feeling –

PREMIER WYNNE: If I'm going to win?

Q: No, that one would be too easy –

PREMIER WYNNE: Or about my poll?

Q: That would be too easy for you, no. How about tell me how you feel the party is positioned this far – you know a year ahead of the election?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well, again, you know one of the things that is a reality now that we have set election dates is that everyone knows when the election is coming and that's a good thing, because it adds some predictability, but it means that the lens that's put on everything that we do is about the election. And my reality, the job I'm doing, is the job that I started doing when I became the leader of the party in 2013 and then we won a majority government in 2014, and I continue to do that job and will continue to do it through to the election. So I'm very focused on – you know today we're having a really important conversation about the relationship with the United States. It's extremely important to Ontario's economy that we have an understanding with the United States about how integrated our economies are and how we can strengthen those partnerships. I'm very focused on making sure that as Ontario grows – we're leading the country in economic growth – that we share that well-being, we share that wealth, and we share that progress across the province. Therefore the Fair Workplace and Better Jobs, the Fair Hydro Plan, the Fair Housing Plan – those are the things that I am focused on and we will get to the election, we'll have the election, and there will be a campaign and then folks in the media and all of the pundits will be able to do their analyses. I have to remain focused and that is my job to remain focused on serving the people of Ontario and that's what I'm doing.

Q: So if I can follow up. Given that you know over recent months you've dealt with hydro prices, brought in rent control, you know now announced what you're going to do around the minimum

wage, pharmacare, all of these you know popular things. You still got walloped in the byelection into Sault Ste. Marie which was a seat that you guys won handily in the last election and you had a popular candidate or well-known candidate at least this time. So how do you explain it?

PREMIER WYNNE: So byelections are their own animals you know? They're always difficult for government. There are premiers of this province who have never won a byelection. So you know that's the reality. So I'm not going to read too much into it. And again you know the people who do those analyses can read what they choose into that event. I'm focused on, as I say, implementing the plans that are going to help people in the province. And remember, we were climbing out of a very deep hole in terms of the aftermath of the recession we talked about that today. We've brought in the first balanced budget in Ontario in almost a decade. And so we are in a position now to make some of the investments that will help people in their lives on a day to day basis. We've made investments in infrastructure, we've worked to get better retirement security, we've invested in education and health care and the things that we are doing right now are about making sure that people feel that growth that some are experiencing and others are not.

UNIDENTIFIED: This will be the last question.

Q: Hi Premier and welcome back. Rob Ferguson, Toronto Star. Just curious when you were talking today given what's been happening in the States in the last week, have you come to any new conclusions on what you need to do in regard to renegotiating NAFTA or with Buy American – is there anything – are there any new threats on those fronts that got discussed today that you're aware of? That you may be changing tack on or whatever?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well we've had some really interesting presentations. I don't know if anybody else would like to comment on that?

DAVID H. WILKINS, FORMER U.S. AMBASSADOR TO CANADA: You're doing fine.

PREMIER WYNNE: Well I thought it was interesting that much of what we've been talking about here on this side of the border was reconfirmed today, that the personal relationships, the understanding where people are at, being on the ground and being able to engage in conversation about a whole variety of subjects. I had the opportunity to meet with Secretary Perdue and we talked about agriculture. There have been – as I said there have been many discussions about things like technology and advanced manufacturing. So I think that knowing the nature of what each of our jurisdictions is doing is really important and will help us as we go through the NAFTA negotiations. We also were all clear that the provinces are not going to be at the table through the through the negotiation but we are going to be able to inform the position of the negotiators at the national level. So again understanding where each of us is coming from is very important. So it was really a reaffirmation of that. Anybody want to add anything to that?

PREMIER GALLANT: I'll just quickly add, whether it's NAFTA, softwood lumber, whether it's any subject that comes up with regards to trade between our two countries, I believe it's important for that discussion to be considered under the frame that robust trade between our two countries creates millions of jobs on both sides of the border. That's crucial. And if you take an example of softwood lumber which is very important to many Canadians, certainly too many New Brunswickers, it creates jobs in New Brunswick when we send our softwood lumber to the United States and it also helps American families keep costs low when they're constructing their homes or other important things to their lives. There are benefits in many ways to ensure that

we continue the strong trading relationship we have between Canada and US, and that has to be in my opinion the frame in which we have these discussions.

PREMIER WYNNE: Absolutely. Anyone else?

UNIDENTIFIED: Thank you.

PREMIER WYNNE: Okay. Thanks everyone. Merci.

*PREMIER WYNNE'S REMARKS AT THE 10TH ANNUAL SOUTHEASTERN UNITED STATES
– CANADA PROVINCES ALLIANCE CONFERENCE (2017.06.05)*

Date: June 5, 2017
Length: 15:24 minutes
Speaker(s): Premier Kathleen Wynne

PREMIER KATHLEEN WYNNE: Good morning. Bonjour, bonjour. Aanii. It is wonderful to see you all here this morning and for those of you I haven't spoken to yet I want to welcome you to Ontario. And I want to -- just before I begin, I want to acknowledge that we're on land that has been a gathering place for Indigenous people for generations. I want to show my respect for this history, for the treaties and for the ongoing contributions of Indigenous peoples in Ontario and particularly the Mississaugas of the New Credit. I am thrilled to see so many states, provinces and businesses represented here at the 10th annual conference of the SEUS-CP alliance. In welcoming you here this morning I want to talk about where we are right now as trading partners, how we got here and what is on the line. And I know there have already been some very good conversations; it has begun. And I want to just take an opportunity now to talk about where I think the starting point is. Alan referenced this briefly 10 years ago when the Southeastern United States - Canada Provinces Alliance; so I am going to say SEUS-CP from here on in because it is just too many words. When SEUS-CP was created it was November 2007. The timing is interesting I think. One month earlier stock markets were at an all-time high; North America was booming. But as we all know that was about to come crashing down and the economic turmoil of the recession was brutal especially for workers. It also showed us just how integrated and interdependent Canada and the U.S. had become. After a little over a decade of working together under NAFTA; growing trade and sharing the benefits of that growth as part of the NAFTA process, we shared the hardship of the recession. We felt it across every region and every sector. But with all of that we didn't walk away from our partnership. We didn't question free trade or blame it for the jobs that we lost. Here at SEUS-CP and elsewhere we kept building partnerships because we are a trading nation and so is America. We know there is more to be gained through open borders and we did weather the storm. Ten years later two-way trade between Ontario and the six SEUS member states has grown significantly.

PREMIER IN FRENCH: We have been commercial partners for a long time. We know our partnership stimulates growth and creates good jobs.

PREMIER IN ENGLISH: Last year Ontario was the number one customer for exports from Georgia, North Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee. And in every one of these places jobs are up, wages are rising and that is no coincidence. Trade plays a role in that progress. The business to business partnerships that you have been building here for 10 years play a role. In 2008 when we were losing tens of thousands of jobs, Ontario-based Magna acquired a vehicle parts facility in Birmingham, Alabama. Magna began investing heavily in expansion. By 2015 they put in half (inaudible) billion dollars and brought the number of jobs at that plant to over 900. Then Magna announced another massive investment; another 350 jobs in Birmingham. Or there is Ontario's ABC group. In 2013 they decided to double their operations in Gallatin, Tennessee -- did I pronounce that right? Is it Gallatin? Gallatin, okay. I didn't know if it was Gallatin -- Gallatin -- creating another 200 high-quality manufacturing jobs. These are just two examples in a \$500 billion body of evidence that shows free trade is good for U.S. businesses and workers. But I think the reality is right now we're at another fork in the road and

this is a moment that will test us and test our partnership. We've all seen the growing instinct in the U.S. and in other places quite frankly, to embrace protectionism. We all have listened as politicians have labelled free trade the enemy of good jobs and we know that is not true. We know that people who go to work every day at the (inaudible), Mississippi or the (inaudible) factory in Kingston, Ontario, their jobs rely on open borders. Their families rely on open borders. So what do we do? So I want to talk a little bit about the approach that we are taking in Ontario. There are two parts. First, there are the things that we are doing here at home. We're making investments that will prepare our people and our businesses to compete in a changing and competitive global economy.

PREMIER IN FRENCH: Ontario is making investments to help our workforce and businesses to become more competitive in a global economy.

PREMIER IN ENGLISH: One part of that that is fighting climate change. We believe that the whole world needs to be involved in protecting the planet that we all share so Ontario has stepped up to lead the way. We took the continent's single biggest climate change action when we closed down all of our coal-fired plants three years and now we have a cap on pollution and we're getting ready to join the carbon market with Quebec and California. We don't just see climate change and climate action as a moral obligation. We see it as a competitive advantage. It creates flexibility for traditional industries and creates entirely new industries in clean techs and renewables. A lower carbon future is where the world is going. We can follow or we can lead and we are choosing an Ontario to lead. And not just on climate change and the innovative technologies that make our homes and businesses more efficient, we are also leading the way when it comes to ensuring that everyone in our economy is treated fairly. Much of the anger that is directed at trade is legitimate. It is coming from people who feel like they are being left behind or that they are being taken advantage of. But I don't think that free trade is actually at the core of that anger. The real source of the anger is a rapidly changing economy that doesn't feel fair, doesn't always reward hard work nor does it give everyone the same shot. We have to fix that and we can. I will give you three quick examples of what we are doing. Starting in September colleges and university tuition will be free for over 210,000 students. Too many of our kids weren't going on after high school because of the cost. What we know is that young people from affluent families were going to college or university at four times the rate of young people from low-income families. We need to change that so we're making sure that everyone can get the skills that they need. Second, we are making the biggest expansion of universal medicare in a generation. First, children and youth will be able to fill their prescriptions for free up until their 25th birthday. It is a big step forward towards universal drug coverage for everyone. Companies don't always give families those benefits nearly as often as they used to. So we are stepping up and giving workers that security and removing that stress from their lives. Finally, we are updating our employment laws to make the workplace fairer. Ontario as a whole is doing very well. The single biggest reason that we are able to succeed in this changing global economy is the talent and skills of our workers but the workplace has changed. So we are extending the advantage of a stable, skilled workforce by making sure that all of our workers are protected and that they are treated fairly. Everyone deserves to share in the benefits of growth and when they do we show people that free trade and open borders are in everyone's best interest, not just executives and shareholders. And these ideas are catching on elsewhere as well. Two weeks ago, Facebook founder, Mark Zuckerberg, gave a commencement address at Harvard and he asked the graduates to react to the challenges of our new world with new ideas; ideas that will give renewed purpose to our shared belief in freedom, in innovation and the common good. He spoke about the universal basic income, portable and universal health coverage, and affordable quality child care for every family. Every one of those things that Zuckerberg is musing about we are doing here in Ontario; basic income pilot, the expansion of universal Medicare, new child

care spaces; it is happening here in Ontario. We are being bold, we are taking risks, and we're being inventive about adapting in this period of dramatic change, protecting workers and ensuring fairness. And that is exactly how we are approaching the modernization of NAFTA. NAFTA has been great for all three of its partners. That doesn't mean it has been perfect. The agreement was negotiated 25 years from now and we can all benefit from an update. So the second part of our approach in this period of uncertainty starts by treating the NAFTA negotiations not as a threat but as an opportunity and that has been the theme of many of our conversations over the last evening and this morning; that there are challenges no doubt. There are always challenges but there are opportunities that we see confronting us right now. And so because we see these as an opportunity we want to play a proactive role. States and provinces have a unique position and we take that very seriously in Canada; we take every aspect of our U.S. partnership seriously. But that role that provinces and states can play together I think is critical. It is why I have stepped up my U.S. engagement meeting regularly with governors and strengthening ties at the state and federal level. And later this week I am headed to Washington with a group of premiers to keep talking about where we're coming from and finding common ground. And that common ground is there. Every conversation that I have had it is quite clear that there is a mutual understand of our integrated best interests. Provinces and states are not the signatory on trade deals; we know that. But we manage the real world implications and we are dealing with the same issues, whether it is labour reform, environment or building a competitive business environment. And we need to be united right now. We especially need to resist protectionist policies that will divide us and ultimately harm businesses and workers. When New York State was considering a Buy America provision in its budget, we teamed up with Quebec and we went to Albany to make that case. Nobody wants a trade war; that is not on any of our agendas. But in the face of unfair actions Ontario will stand up for its workers and businesses and will do that every time. And that is what we told New York legislators; that if they want to go down this road we would have no choice but to respond in kind. But with a record of \$190 billion being spent on infrastructure in Ontario right now, there are enormous opportunities for American businesses. But those opportunities like so many others rely on our borders. So I am very pleased that New York did not go ahead with that provision and I am committed to maintaining open trade and investment with the U.S. and Mexico under a modernized NAFTA. We think that the current rules of origin for auto are working well for the North American sector and its worker and we have some ideas about creating freer, fairer trade and brining greater benefits. The modernized deal should address Buy American policies because they violate the very spirit of our open partnership and they undermine the benefits. We also think that this is actually an opportunity to formalize regularity cooperation and update the rules around intellectual property; those are good opportunities. We should look at making it easier for small businesses to benefit from our barrier-free market and we should add a chapter on E-Commerce. The internet barely even existed when NAFTA was signed. It is also time to talk about full chapter status for labour and environmental standards. To have trade that is both freer and fairer we need common modern and legally enforceable standards and to leverage every one of our strengths and boost growth we need to allow for greater labour mobility. So yes, there is much that we can do to improve NAFTA and we are not here in Ontario taking a wait-and-see approach. We are working with the provinces, we are working with our federal government, and we are working with businesses and our U.S. partners. And I am very encouraged that the U.S. trade representatives' letter to congress touched on opportunities for strengthening and modernizing NAFTA without any of the overheated political rhetoric that we sometimes hear. Ontario has a lot to offer our U.S. partners and I know you will be talking about that over the course of the conference. And now it is time for all of us to stand together, stand up and to lead. So I want to thank you for providing that leadership at this critical time. Businesses create jobs, not governments. And we were talking earlier about (inaudible) get out of the way much of the time. And we are absolutely committed to helping you do that and we

are committed to playing that catalyst role and the facilitative role that is so important. But together we can show that free trade and open border is essential for growth, they are essential for jobs, and the way of life that defines our trading partnership as the most successful, prosperous, bilateral partnership in the world. So welcome to Ontario, thank you for being here, thank you for your partnership thus far and now let's get to work. Merci, Migwetch.

RADIO INTERVIEWS

CHML INTERVIEW WITH PREMIER KATHLEEN WYNNE (2017.06.27)

Date: June 27, 2017
Station: CHML
Length: 13:36 minutes
Speaker(s): Premier Kathleen Wynne

CHML: Welcome back. Bill Kelly show, 900, CHML. Yeah the boss is coming. The Premier will be with us momentarily; one of the keynote speakers here. We are at the RBG, the Royal Botanical Gardens this morning. This is the third annual Bay Area economic summit; collaboration between the Burlington and Hamilton chambers of commerce and of course the two cities themselves. You heard from the two mayors, Burlington Mayor Rick Goldring and Hamilton Mayor Fred Eisenberger just a few minutes ago to start off the show. We will also hear from city managers of both cities, economic development departments from both cities and a number of others that are involved in this. And we've done this show in many past years. Of course we've talked about some of the other collaborations; community groups and business groups that have been involved in this. This is obviously about the economy but as Rob MacIsaac from Hamilton Health Sciences told us a few weeks ago; and I guess I was just told by the mayor that he reiterated this in his comments earlier this morning, when we want to talk about a healthy economy you also have to have a healthy community. Well that brings the healthcare sector into play doesn't it? And certainly you also have to talk about rising everybody's education level and preparing people for the jobs of tomorrow. Well now all of a sudden we're into the education sector. So this is collaboration between so many groups that are working together and it's wonderful to see it happen because like I say, it wasn't that long ago where this just didn't seem to go on when the one hand wasn't talking to the other hand. And we just seemed to be going off in circles. I mean there were some small victories but there didn't seem to be a coordinated effort. That seems to be changing now and that's I think what we're seeing with some of the collaboration and some of the things that have happened between these two cities over the last number of years. But it's always interesting when you look at this to also get outside opinions. You know sometimes you can't see the forest for the trees you know, when you're living in that bubble; the Hamilton-Burlington bubble where things are happening. We can talk about some of that but every now and then you want to get a voice from outside to give us some ideas as to how things are going in and how it's being perceived in other areas. And one of the keynote speakers at the summit this year is going to be Richard Matheson. Now Birgit was with us by phone a couple of weeks ago on the Bill Kelly show on CHML. She is the director of the Canada-U.S. cross-border business affairs with Arent Fox Law, Firm. As a matter of fact today she was on with us. She was speaking from her offices in Washington. She essentially was looking out her office window at the White House and wondering, I guess more than wondering, but planning about how Canada is going to deal with the NAFTA renegotiations that are going to be happening very shortly of course. There's been a great deal of action trepidation about that between these two countries. You know, what Trump is saying, what some of his officials are saying and what Canadian officials are saying. And the federal government of course has spent a lot of time talking about this and sent a lot of people down there. The prime minister met with the president a little while ago. Other officials from the federal government, Chrystia Freeland and Bill Morneau among others have been down to Washington and other parts of the United States over the last little while to lay the groundwork

for those discussions and those negotiations. And I would think also to try to impart to those U.S. officials what the importance of Canada-U.S. trade and how it is mutually beneficial notwithstanding the fact that President Trump seems to think it's a one sided affair. The numbers would belie that hypothesis by Trump and it's important and I think essential to get that message across. And the provincial officials have done the same thing obviously to have talked with American officials because the cross-border trade is such a key element to this. So we look forward to listening to Birgit Matthiesen has to say about those negotiations and most certainly I think we have to understand that whatever happens in those negotiations are going to have a direct impact on him here in Ontario. And more specifically here in the Hamilton Burlington area we've talked about the new economy, we've talked about some of the innovations that have been happening here in the last little while. And obviously those negotiations among so many other things are going to be factored into how and when and how and what extent rather we're going to prosper through those negotiations. So what role does the provincial government play in this? Well it's a big one quite frankly and that to that end we are so pleased to welcome back to the program the Premier of the province of Ontario, the Honourable Kathleen Wynne. Good to see you again. Thanks for coming in today.

PREMIER WYNNE: Thanks. Thank you, great to be here.

CHML: It's an early start. Did you get your run in today before you got over here?

PREMIER WYNNE: I did not but I'm going to run home...

CHML: Shame on you.

PREMIER WYNNE: ...I'm going to run home from work tonight.

CHML: Well I will tell you I just heard the traffic reports on the Queen E, you may just run back to Queen's Park, might be faster.

PREMIER WYNNE: Get there faster.

CHML: Let's talk a little bit about this and we're pretty excited about the collaboration that's going on between Hamilton and Burlington in the last little while. And you know the themes of course. I know you spoke about it earlier this morning here at the summit about driving regional and global connectivity about regional goods movement. Suffice to say the province plays a major role in the economic plans and the economic future of these two communities.

PREMIER WYNNE: Absolutely and I talked about that this morning Bill. You know there are a number of fronts on which we have been working. I think that probably the most important -- well I guess there are a couple that are very important but the educated workforce in this province is a huge advantage for us. And so you know it's no coincidence you've got Mohawk College here and talking with folks. I mean the role that we play in the province to make sure that everyone who wants to and is able to can go to college or university or get a training, that is our advantage. Businesses tell me all the time that they come to Ontario because of our highly educated and highly skilled workforce. So the free tuition that we put in place that starts this September for kids who otherwise might be worried about the debt or come from low income families, that's going to make a huge difference to about 230,000 kids come September. So that is hugely important. The other investments -- so that's an investment in people. The other investment that is critical and I know it's been a hot topic in this region is investment in infrastructure.

CHML: Yes.

PREMIER WYNNE: [Inaudible] transit, infrastructure and I you know, I showed a map in my remarks today about the connectivity that we're engendering by investing in light rail, in bus-rapid transit, in the GO system Regional Express rail. All of that makes a difference to the economic development of the region.

CHML: And that's key and it's-- the plans, I think there's great anticipation about the plans obviously. Not just here in the Hamilton-Burlington community but all the way down to Niagara eventually you know that's part of the long-term plan.

PREMIER WYNNE: And the building has started. You know it's not-- we're just not at the planning stage. We've got work going on all over the province and shovels in the ground.

CHML: Well, Mr. Eisenberger, Mayor Goldring just got back from the Large Urban Mayors Conference in Ottawa a week or two ago and they were about the work that's going on in that LRT--

PREMIER WYNNE: Absolutely.

CHML: [Inaudible] Mayor Watson and that's moving along swimmingly we're told--

PREMIER WYNNE: And I understand that the CIA's, the Hamilton Chamber and the Burlington and the Hamilton Chamber particularly are going to be working with businesses to kind of do a bit of a promotion on making sure that people--

CHML: Already started that apparently--

PREMIER WYNNE: Yeah, so that people know to come down and even when the construction is going on because it is disruptive but if we don't disrupt then we don't get the innovation right?

CHML: Let me ask you about something else though and it's another offshoot of this and the people movement is absolutely essential. I agree with you totally. But one of the other elements that's going to be discussed here to a great extent is goods movement and we have, I think, a unique approach in a unique situation here in the Bay Area with one of the largest cargo airports in the country. We have rail transport, although it's not as good as it used to be in the past but that's a federal government issue. We have the harbor here and the water that's going on here, and road infrastructure too. I mean the problem that a lot of the businesses are telling us about here Premier is; listen, how do we get the goods from here to market in an efficient way? And of course we're with the airport here as well. I mean we're connected, we seem to have all the elements right now, but because of gridlock, because of a couple of other issues that that are affecting that kind of transportation right now, there's a problem getting goods to market. How does the province help in that situation?

PREMIER WYNNE: Well I think in a couple of ways. The first one I've already talked about; making direct investments and making sure that we do what we can in terms of building. I have had conversations with the harbor folks. I think that we need to have a federal, municipal, provincial discussion about the inter-modal hub that Hamilton is. I know that there was a discussion not that long ago about the airport and how it could be-- how its function could be expanded in terms of goods movement. So I think what we can do as a province and maybe this

is something that we work with Ted and Eleanor on. How do we facilitate that discussion federally and municipally and provincially because really we've got everybody at the table Bill.

CHML: We've got to get our heads around some stuff. I remember going to a meeting at Queen's Park years ago with Ted McMeekin and others talking about Highway H2O and about the importance of things like short sea shipping and things of this nature. We got away from using water as a main transportation. I mean we live on the Great Lakes for crying out loud. I mean we have to look at an asset like that and probably maximize it. I'm not so sure we're doing that.

PREMIER WYNNE: Well and you know when I was Minister of Transportation was actually when I had those conversations about the Highway H20 and that Blue Highway. So I agree with you, but that really is something that needs a three-way discussion. You know we can't as a province take full responsibility for that. We can partner with the feds and with the municipality but we need everybody at the table, and the same with rail as you've said.

CHML: You've had discussions, I was mentioning just before you joined us here about-- well Birgit Matthiesen is going to join us, of course from the Canada-U.S. relations business affairs, to talk about NAFTA and the impact that is going to have on, first of all on the broader base here federally, but even from a provincial or from a regional standpoint as well. Now, you've had discussions with U.S. officials about that. What sense are you getting?

PREMIER WYNNE: So here's what I'm hearing. And first of all, everyone understands how important our inter-connectivity is. You know I always use the example Bill of an automobile going across the border seven times before it's completed. So you know it is very important that we all recognize on the U.S. side and on the Canadian side that we are better off, our markets are better off, our businesses are better off if we're connected. Now I know there are people here in Ontario who would argue that but we've seen a huge expansion of industry with NAFTA. That doesn't mean it can't be better and so the approach we're taking is; let's find the ways in which we can actually do better. There is nothing about e-commerce in that. There's nothing about the digital economy because it didn't exist when NAFTA was written. So there are improvements that need to be made. And my governor colleagues and the legislators I've talked to in the United States they get that. They don't want to blow NAFTA up and destroy the businesses that are dependent on Canadian business. There are nine million jobs in the States that are dependent on Canadian business and so the leaders in those jurisdictions know that they know in the States that that's important. What we're dealing with though is unpredictability from the White House. We don't know, and people in the States don't know exactly what the tactic is going to be from the White House. And so that creates some uncertainty but it also creates an even greater need for us at the sub-national. And by that I mean the provincial, the states, the municipal levels to have really strong relationships so that we can talk to each other. I am not going to be at the NAFTA negotiating table. It is the federal government that will be there. We will be giving input to the federal government.

CHML: Are you comfortable that they have your back?

PREMIER WYNNE: Absolutely. Absolutely. You know, there is no question Ontario is such an important part of the economy. You know, we are 38 per cent of the population of the country so we are nearly 40 per cent of the well-being in this province, in this country. So I know that the federal government has our back. At the same time we need to be very specific in our conversation with the feds so that when they go to the table they understand exactly what is needed. So we will play that role but in the meantime I am going to continue to reach out to

governors. I am going to be talking to legislators. I am going to be going to the National Governors Association this summer because those relationships in the end are going to be really important for us. It's like how in New York we got you know, we got a retraction of a very broad and potentially damaging provision on Buy America from the New York budget because we were on the ground, we were talking – our ministers were down there; Brad Duguid, Michael Chan were in New York talking to the legislators in New York about the damage to New York jobs if that provision had gone ahead the way it was written originally.

CHML: So much more to talk about but I know our time is limited and actually you've made a special allowance to stick around and be on the program here too because I know you addressed this conference some time ago. I'll let you go at this stage because you have to get back on the highway. Thank you so much. It's great to see you again.

PREMIER WYNNE: But I will always come back, thanks Bill.

CHML: You are always welcome. I'd love to get you back next time you are in town. Make sure you pop by.

PREMIER WYNNE: Thanks Bill. Thanks a lot.

CHML: Premier Kathleen Wynne of course joining us here at the Economic Summit. Thanks again for that Premier.